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September 9, 2001

September 14, 2001 (4:07PM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Office of the Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555
Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

To Whom It May Concern:

We have just learned of the NRC proposed rulemaking as described in The Federal Register, April 16, 2001, Vol. 66 to change the licensing hearing process for nuclear power reactors. The public is entitled to full and meaningful participation in an on-the-record hearing process for the licensing of new reactors, the relicensing of aging reactors and industry amendments to operating license safety requirements. As naturally occurring background radiation causes 20,000 cancer deaths a year, we do not understand why you would want to make it easier to build new nuclear power plants or renew aging nuclear power plants *which do and will emit more radiation to cause more cancer deaths and other degenerative diseases.*

Have you forgotten or never read the March 7, 1989 Federal Register Part IV, Environmental Protection Agency 40 CFR Part 61 NESHAPS and the final rule and regulation on December 15, 1989 on radionuclides? **“III. Historical Background of Radionuclide NESHAPS” “On December 27, 1979, EPA listed radionuclides as a hazardous air pollutant under section 112 of the CAA (44 FR 76738, December 27, 1979). EPA determined that radionuclides are a known cause of cancer and genetic damage and that radionuclides cause or contribute to air pollution that may reasonably be anticipated to result in an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness, and therefore constitute a hazardous air pollutant within the meaning of section 112(a) (1).”**

In the Federal Register, Vol. 58, No. 116, Friday, June 18, 1993, it states that “The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has the statutory responsibility for protection of health and safety related to the use of source, byproduct, and special nuclear material under the Atomic Energy Act.” Instead of not allowing the public participation in licensing new reactors or renewing old ones which is detrimental to our health, you should be protecting our health by closing down all nuclear reactors as soon as possible and insist that the nuclear industry must start building solar energy systems now. There is enough technology to start solar now. *Stop lining the pockets of the nuclear industry and start doing what you are supposed to be doing -* PROTECTING THE SAFETY OF THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NOW. Don't even dare to try taking our Constitutional Rights away from us - “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” by not allowing us to be full participants in an on-the-

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record process in licensing new and aging reactors, etc.

Why are you protecting the nuclear industry instead of the public? We would like an answer to this question.

Sincerely,



Fred and Sue Fracke

The following people have asked us to add their names to our letter as they support our sentiments, too.

Carola and Michael Sauers, 910 Garibaldi Court, Hazleton, PA 18201
Phil Kaufman, 8 E. Broad Street, West Hazleton, PA 18201
Rochelle and Paul White, HC1, Box 164, Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
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