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PROPOSED RULE **PR 2,19,20 et al.**  
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**From:** Katharine Dodge <kdodge@mail.ptd.net>  
**To:** TWFN\_DO.twf4\_po(CAG)  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 28, 1999 11:56 PM  
**Subject:** Proposed Licensing Rule

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1632 Lake Ariel Highway  
Lake Ariel, PA 18436  
June 28, 1999

OFFICE OF THE  
RULE  
ADJUDICATOR

Secretary, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington DC 20555-0001  
Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

RE: Proposed Rule: Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in a Proposed Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

I am vehemently opposed to the NRC's proposed rule-making that would weaken standards for radiation protection at the proposed Yucca Mountain repository because:

1. The NRC has no legal authority to override the EPA's legal jurisdiction for setting radiation protection standards.
2. There is no reason Nevada should accept lower standards than the rest of the nation. If anything, they should enjoy stricter standards because of other radiation hazards such as the Beatty waste facility and the Nevada test site.
3. There is too much in doubt, as demonstrated by independent scientists, about the stability of the site, to justify using Yucca Mountain as a high-level radioactive waste repository.
4. The biosphere must not be jeopardized for the convenience of the nuclear industry. The NRC and the EPA are here to protect the biosphere for future generations, not to cater to the needs of an over-subsidized, unhealthy industry.
5. Radioactive activities and policies concerning such activities over the past 50-odd years have contributed to rising "background" radiation levels. Any past releases become part of the background level statistics. Now the proposed "recycling" of radioactive materials for use in consumer products and the proposed relaxation of standards at Yucca Mountain threaten to add to our so-called "background" burden.

Please find the moral fortitude to stop the long tragedy of errors that has marked a half century of nuclear industry/government collusion. No more corporate welfare for the nuclear industry! No more pandering to industry lobbyists. It is time to listen to the people. Please withdraw your proposal to relax protection standards at Yucca Mountain.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,  
Katharine Dodge  
Concerned Citizen

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Acknowledged by card JUL - 7 1999  
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