

DOCKET NUMBER  
PROPOSED RULE *PR 2, 19, 20 et al.*  
(64FR8640)

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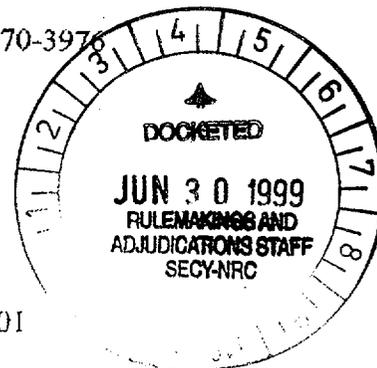


# NORTH AMERICAN WATER OFFICE

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June 30, 1999



Secretary  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001  
Attn: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff

Office of the Secretary  
Attn: Andrea Byrd  
Fax No.: (301) 414-1101

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

Dear Secretary:

It is unconscionable that the NRC is considering relaxation of radiation protection standards in the above captioned matter. In the face of this proposal, NRC staff lie when they purport to the public that "safety is the number one concern." This proposal is further evidence that the primary NRC objective is to accommodate the needs and desires of the nuclear industry regardless of social, economic, environmental or public safety consequences. An informed citizenry will not tolerate such arrogant abuse from its public officials.

Your proposal is discriminatory. Why should people and the environment near Yucca Mountain be less protected from radioactive contamination than people and the environment near WIPP in New Mexico, for example?

Your proposal does not assure adequate protection for future generations, and it reduces the ability of future generations to protect themselves from wastes produced in our time. Your proposal ignores critical design and safety requirements by not limiting the thermal energy output of high-level waste per unit area, and you have no scientific basis for doing so. Your proposal seems to assume that nothing will change in the Yucca Mountain region for the next 240,000 years. You are warped. How dumb do you think we are? You have no legal authority to usurp EPA's jurisdiction regarding standards for the proposed Yucca Mountain Repository, under the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

Stop trying to screw Nevada. Terminate this abusive nonsense forthwith.

*George Crocker*  
George Crocker  
Executive Director

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Acknowledged by card JUL - 1 1999  
SECY-02