



GLOBAL RESOURCE ACTION CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

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HUMAN  
ADJUSTMENT

June 24, 1999

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Andrea Byrd  
Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Via Fax: (301) 415-1101

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

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

Dear Ms. Byrd:

I am writing to express my opposition to the NRC's Proposed Repository Licensing Rule for Yucca Mountain. This Rule would weaken the radiation protection standards set for the safety of the public and the environment, and is therefore unacceptable from an environmental, public health, and legal point of view.

The proposed rule threatens the health of local Nevadans, who are already faced with radiation exposure from two other sources: the Nevada Test Site, and the Beatty "low level" radioactive waste dump. In particular, the water supply is threatened by radioactive leakage, and the NRC Rule would not provide the stringent standards required to prevent such leakage.

Furthermore, the proposed rule does not take the future into account. Given the uncertainty surrounding this Repository the radiation protection standards should be more stringent, as opposed to the less stringent standards that are being proposed. Specifically, the proposed rule does not provide future generations with adequate protection against exposure to radionuclide releases from the proposed Yucca Mountain repository. It also underestimates possible future human intrusions into the repository, and the accompanying dangerous consequences.

In conclusion, I request that the NRC's Proposed Licensing Rule be rejected. The consequences of this rule would be potentially disastrous for the citizens of Nevada, and would set a dangerous precedence for public health in general.

Sincerely,

*Alice Slater*  
Alice Slater  
President

Acknowledged by card JUN 28 1999

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