

DOCKET NUMBER  
PROPOSED RULE **PR 20**  
**(68FR09595)**

DOCKETED  
USNRC



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From: <jsfowler@cavtel.net>  
To: <rulemaking@nrc.gov>  
Date: Wed, Mar 5, 2003 5:51 PM  
Subject: Response from "Contact Us About Rulemaking-Ruleforum"

2003 MAR -6 AM 11: 21

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
RULEMAKINGS AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by

(jsfowler@cavtel.net) on Wednesday, March 05, 2003 at 17:53:30

comments: How do you respond to the following?

"We all know nuclear reactors generate thousands of tons of highly radioactive waste -- and what to do with it all, and whether nuke plants should be allowed to continue churning it out, is a never-ending argument. But as major industrial operations, nuke plants also run through millions of tons of other materials -- tools, pipes, concrete, steel - some of which becomes slightly radioactive in the process. What to do with that stuff is even less clear: The National Academy of Sciences says treating it all as low-level waste would cost the industry anywhere from \$4.5 billion to \$11.7 billion -- but that taking the time to carefully examine it all to sort out the hot stuff from the cold would cost even more. Then again, one could always just treat the hot stuff and the cold stuff the same, ignore the more than 100 environmental and consumer protection groups begging you to respect your public duty, and pretend none of it is hot.

That's the industry's favored option -- and also, it turns out, that of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission." - Matt Bivens' Daily Outrage - The Nation

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Template = SECY-067

SECY-02