



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

The Honorable Dan Schaefer, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has sent to the Office of the Federal Register, for publication, the enclosed *Federal Register* notice announcing the Commission's plans regarding the withdrawal of the proposed rule that amends NRC's generic geologic disposal regulations found in 10 CFR Part 60.

At present, the NRC staff has proposed and is implementing a strategy for developing site-specific disposal regulations that would apply solely to Yucca Mountain. These site-specific regulations will be promulgated consistent with EnPA, which also requires the Environmental Protection Agency to issue radiation standards for a geologic repository at Yucca Mountain, based on and consistent with the 1995 findings and recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences. Therefore, the proposed rule is being withdrawn and the need for it will be reconsidered at some later date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dennis K. Rathbun", is written over a faint, larger signature.

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Representative Ralph Hall

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*See previous concurrence

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DATE	07/1/98		7/2/98		7/2/98		7/20/98		7/28/98	

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NAME	MKnapp		DRathbun							
DATE	7/1/98		7/2/98							

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The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private
Property and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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MEMORANDUM TO: David L. Meyer, Chief
Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of the Administration

8/12/98

FROM: Patricia K. Holahan, Acting Chief
Rulemaking and Guidance Branch
Division of Industrial and Medical
Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSED RULE ON CLARIFICATION OF THE
ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SITING CRITERIA AND
PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

By memorandum dated June 30, 1995, the Secretary of the Commission indicated that it was the Commission's wish that the staff withdraw a proposed rule that would clarify uncertainties in the regulations found in 10 CFR Part 60 that contain generic criteria governing the disposal of high-level radioactive wastes (HLW) in geologic repositories. Because Congressional activity in this area was ongoing at the time, and because the staff would also be developing a modified disposal regulation for Yucca Mountain, Nevada, consistent with the Energy Policy Act of 1992, the Commission recommended that the proposed rule be withdrawn and the need for it reconsidered at some later date.

Accordingly, it is requested that you kindly implement the Commission's request by arranging for publication of the notice of withdrawal in the Federal Register. Copies of the Federal Register Notice are attached in both hard copies and diskette. Also attached are a Congressional letter package for transmittal to the Office of Congressional Affairs and a copy of the June 1995 Staff Requirements Memorandum.

Attachments:

1. Federal Register Notice, including 3 Copies and Diskette
2. Congressional Letter Package
3. June 30, 1995, Staff Requirements Memorandum

CONTACT: Michael P. Lee, NMSS/DWM
415-6677

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DATE	8/11/98		8/11/98							

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MEMORANDUM TO: David L. Meyer, Chief
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Office of the Administration

FROM: John T. Greeves, Chief
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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