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From: "Joe Marty" <mltsy@hotmail.com>  
To: <secy@nrc.gov>  
Date: Thu, Jun 26, 2003 9:27 AM  
Subject: Nuclear waste - restricted release

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Dear Policy Maker,

DOCKETED  
USNRC

June 26, 2003 (11:12AM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
RULEMAKINGS AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

I am frustrated by the possibility that you will be releasing any type of nuclear waste into our every-day communities. Even if they are released only for restricted uses, such as sewers or building materials, they could later go to the scrap yard where they could be picked up by any citizen and used for a personal project or melted down again. When you are talking about something that is hazardous for many many lifetimes, it is not safe to assume that if you restrict their use today, they won't be used for something else later. As for the landfill idea, the same problem occurs, since radioactive waste doesn't become unhazardous for such a long time. Since landfills have only a 30 year institutional control policy, the waste could be released after 30 years for anyone to use for any purpose. Aside from that, normal landfills are already having too much to deal with as far as space issues and political and bureaucratic issues.

The fact that we have run out of space to put our waste should be an indicator to start creating less of it, not an indicator to start lowering the restrictions and polluting our communities with it. Please consider what the world will be like 50 or 100 years from now or 1000 years from now.

You may say, it doesn't affect you, but what are we here for? Are we here to enjoy ourselves, or even more ridiculously, to make money which we will never spend, at the expense of the livelihood of so many people to come? We must stop having such closed minds. Today, this minute, most of us see it as an atrocity to, for no reason but self-enjoyment, cause someone else severe suffering by chemical weapons or concentration camps or just by killing them for their land. We think this even though, for most of us, they have nothing to do with us, and doing something like that would never affect us negatively at all, other than in our conscience, because we don't know these people, and we will probably never meet them. Ask yourself this:

How is that different from doing the same thing to people we don't know, who will live in the future? If you would not make the decision to fill someone's country with nuclear waste today, why would you make the decision to fill someone's country with nuclear waste in the future?

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