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From: Ann Easterly <anotter@larrie.com>
To: <secy@nrc.gov>
Date: Thu, Jun 26, 2003 11:03 PM
Subject: Rulemaking on Controlling the Disposition of Solid Materials

1796

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am concerned about this information I received today:

"The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuing a new rule allowing some radioactive materials to be treated as if they weren't radioactive. Such materials could then find their way into normal commerce, or municipal landfills and garbage incinerators. For example, recycled metals could be used to make girders for an apartment building, spokes for the wheels on a baby's carriage or your next belt buckle. This would be a return to the agency's discredited "Below Regulatory Concern" policy, which was revoked by Congress in 1992, following several years of citizen organizing and outrage."

**DOCKETED
USNRC**

June 27, 2003 (10:25AM)

**OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF**

It seems obvious to me that we should strive for option 5 or 6. If not we are going to have more illness, which costs everyone emotionally and, in the long run, financially. Is this what for your children, grandchildren or nieces and nephews. Taking care of nuclear waste is not easy but disguising it a variety of products is not the solution.

"Option 5

Radioactive waste should be stored, managed and isolated from the environment for as long as it is hazardous at facilities specifically licensed for that purpose for radioactive waste. Existing regulations (10CFR 61) for nuclear waste disposal should be strengthened. NRC should use this rulemaking to truly devise ways to control radioactive waste, not release it from licensed control.

Option 6

Sierra Club is requesting NRC to recapture the radioactive wastes that already have been released. Since the claim is made that these release have had no effect, Sierra asks them to prove it by identifying where the nuclear wastes have gone and checking to see what effects there have been."

Sincerely,
Ann Easterly
Oregon City, Oregon