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Subject: Considering new rules on low-level radwastes

2161

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on
Rulemaking on Controlling the Disposition of Solid Materials
(Radioactive Waste and Materials Release, Recycling, Dispersal)
Scoping Process for Environmental Issues
Federal Register: Feb. 28, 2003 Vol. 68 No. 40 Pp. 9595-9602
Sirs and Madams:

Regarding the recycling and use of radioactive metals in the public marketplace: this is a bad idea.

Yes, there is conflicting scientific evidence, but enough evidence tells us that any extra radiation in our environment results in additional cancers in our populace. In my opinion, there is no necessity to recycle radioactive material into consumer products. The only reason not to heed the "precautionary principle" is financial, which I believe is not sufficient to trump public safety concerns.

I believe that none of the five proffered options are really acceptable. The NRC should focus on monitoring and keeping these radioactive materials isolated from society.

I urge you to adopt a sixth option put forward by the Sierra Club: Recapture the radioactive wastes that already have been released. Prove the effects of these releases by identifying where the nuclear wastes have gone and measuring extra cancers, birth defects, etcetera in these places.

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