

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

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**To:** <secy@nrc.gov>  
**Date:** Mon, Jun 30, 2003 5:45 AM  
**Subject:** "disposition of solid materials"

2418

June 30, 2003

Secretary  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001  
Attn: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

I urge the Commission to continue -- and strengthen -- regulation of all products of nuclear power generation and other radioactive material, including low-level radioactive materials.

The "free market" has proven over and over again that it can not be trusted to handle these materials in ways that are in the best interests of the public and preservation of the natural environment and ecosystems on which all life depends. Saving money and increasing profits provide too great a short-term benefit for corporations, and only the presence of effective controls can provide a strong enough incentive that reflects long-term needs.

Even low-level radioactive materials are still hazardous, especially when they are not subject to strict regulation. Without effective controls, people may be exposed to radioactive materials from many sources, with no way of knowing when the total exposure exceeds safe levels.

Deregulation is a cop-out to industry desires to be free to generate hazardous wastes, risk human health, and pollute our environment -- all so they can reduce costs and increase profits. It is your responsibility to protect public safety and environmental health, not to protect corporate profits.

Sincerely,

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DOCKETED  
USNRC

June 30, 2003 (3:14PM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
RULEMAKINGS AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF