

1/26/03
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From: <bryan.wyberg@honeywell.com>
To: <nrcprep@nrc.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 22, 2004 6:42 PM
Subject: Nuclear plants need stronger safety codes, not weaker

Dear Chief Rules & Directives Bra,

Right now, there are nuclear power plants that do not meet the basic fire safety regulations in nearly a dozen states! This puts communities at risk of serious nuclear accidents resulting from fires inside nuclear power plants. Instead of exempting these plants from meeting fire safety regulations, we need to demand they come into compliance.

How many campaign dollars has the nuclear power industry given the Bush campaign coffers this year? How much in 2000? Apparently it was enough to buy yet another relaxation of BALANCED regulations protecting the health and livelihoods of American citizens!

Why do I have this perception of ugly cronyism and nearly outright extortionist policy-making within the halls of the White House? Just cynicism? I think not! I am outraged to learn of your plans to relax enforcement of fire safety regulations for nuclear power plants.

There can be no justification for relaxing these regulations written as the result of a near catastrophic fire in 1975. Just because many plants still have not come into compliance is not a plausible rationale for weakening safety.

How about enforcing the rules as they are? The nuclear industry is your buddy, you can talk to them. Tell them to come up to compliance. It has been a thirty year free-pass! We all can understand that the White House acting to weaken the regulations will put our communities, the environment and workers at serious risk of nuclear accidents.

At a bare minimum, the automated shutdown equipment should be safe during a fire! Instead of weakening fire codes, you should enforce the law and require that all plants comply with the strictest standards for fire safety.

Please accept these as my official comments upon this regulatory abomination, submitted as a citizen trying to have my government hear my voice and the voices of the rest of us lowly American middle class private citizens.

Sincerely,

Bryan Wyberg
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