

VILLAGE OF NEWBURGH HEIGHTS

20-22
758 FR 54071
KATHLEEN M. EDWARDS, Mayor

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December 20, 1993

Mr. Samuel Chilk, Secretary
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D. C. 20555

RE: 10 CFR 2.802 Petition for Rulemaking from Northeast Ohio Regional
Sewer District (August 2, 1993)

Dear Secretary Chilk,

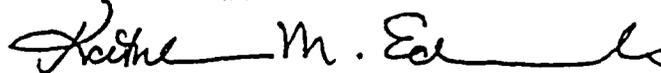
It has come to my attention that the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) filed a two part Petition for Ruling regarding licensees giving twenty four hours notice prior to releasing radioactive waste into the sewer system as well as exempting sewer plants from regulation regarding incineration of radioactive waste. First, as a Mayor of a member community of the NEORS, I believe that NO RADIOACTIVE WASTE SHOULD BE DEPOSITED IN ANY SEWER BY ANY LICENSEE FOR ANY REASON. Secondly, my community is "downwind" of the NEORS's Southerly facility, where Cobalt 60 was inadvertently incinerated. In fact, had it not been for the NRC's commissioned flyover, attempting to locate depleted uranium at the Bert Avenue Dump site in my community, the contamination at Southerly would never have been detected. Therefore I am APPOSED TO ANY SEWER TREATMENT FACILITY INCINERATING RADIOACTIVE WASTE.

I shudder to think of the long range effects to the employees in the sewer plant, who were working when the Cobalt 60 was incinerated, as well as the effects to neighbors of the plant. It is my belief that no one should be subjected to EXPOSURE to radioactive materials without their consent. It is my belief that the NRC must revise its rules to PREVENT FURTHER CONTAMINATION OF ANY SEWER SYSTEM BY PROHIBITING ANY AND ALL RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS TO BE DEPOSITED IN ANY SEWER SYSTEM BY ANY AND ALL LICENSEES.

Recently, the NEORS contacted our engineers regarding a sludge line coming through my Village. It is my belief that the Village of Newburgh Heights must have assurance that RADIOACTIVE WASTE will NEVER again contaminate our soil or most importantly, our residents. The only way we will have this assurance is if the NRC prohibits their licensees from disposing of radioactive wastes into our sewer system.

As a child, I learned that "two wrongs do not make a right..." While it is wrong that the taxpayers of the NEORSD should have to bare the cost of cleaning up the problems resulting from this particular travesty, exempting future sewer districts from regulation is not the solution. Nor, is requiring licensees to give twenty four hours notice prior to dumping radioactive materials into the system a solution. The solution lies in the prohibition of ANY AND ALL LICENSEES FROM DUMPING RADIOACTIVE WASTE (no matter how "small" the contamination), into any sewer system. I respectfully request that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission take immediate steps to prohibit all licensees from dumping any and all radioactive materials into a sewer system in the future.

Yours truly,



Kathleen M. Edwards

cc: Chairman Ivan Sellin, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
The Honorable Howard Metzenbaum, U.S. Senate
The Honorable John Glenn, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Martin Hoke, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Barbara Pringle, Ohio House of Representatives
The Honorable Anthony Sinagera, Ohio Senate
The Honorable Thomas Longo, Chairman NEORSD
The Honorable Louis Bacci, Mayor, Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio
The Honorable James Petro, Cuyahoga County Commissioner
The Honorable Mary Boyle, Cuyahoga County Commissioner
The Honorable Timothy Hagan, Cuyahoga County Commissioner
The Honorable Thomas Neff, Cuyahoga County Engineer
The Cuyahoga County Mayors and Managers Association
Barry Koh, Ph.D., Consultant NEORSD
William Schatz, General Counsel NEORSD
Richard Acton, Executive Secretary A.F.L. C.I.O.
John Lyall, Regional Director, Ohio Council 8, A.F.S.C.M.E.
Chris Trepal, Co Director, Earth Day Coalition