

July 16, 2007

Ms. Elisa Young  
48360 Carmel Road  
Racine, OH 45711

Dear Ms. Young:

Thank you for your email communication of June 27, 2007, in which you inquired about the possibility of storing nuclear waste that had been, or may be, generated from uranium enrichment activities in Piketon, Ohio. As you may know, on April 13, 2007, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission granted USEC Inc. (USEC) a license to construct and operate a new uranium enrichment facility, the American Centrifuge Plant (ACP), which is to eventually replace its existing enrichment facility. As a result of the enrichment process, low-level radioactive waste, depleted uranium, is produced. As noted in our *Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed American Centrifuge Plant in Piketon Ohio* (NUREG-1834), this waste is to be disposed of in a licensed facility in Utah. If that facility should not be available in the future, then the Department of Energy would accept the waste for disposal in its low-level waste facility at the Nevada Test Site. Depleted uranium would not be disposed of in abandoned coal mines in Ohio.

We are unaware of any discussions by "nuclear industry leadership" regarding any proposal to dispose of nuclear waste in abandoned coal mines in Jackson County or in other location in Ohio. However, you may want to contact government agencies of the State of Ohio regarding any potential plans it might have. You can obtain Ohio agency contact information at its web site, [www.Ohio.gov](http://www.Ohio.gov).

If you should have any further comments or concerns regarding the the USEC ACP, you may contact me at [jao@nrc.gov](mailto:jao@nrc.gov) or call me at (301) 492-3115.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Julie Olivier, Senior Project Manager  
Enrichment and Conversion Branch  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

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Julie Olivier, Senior Project Manager  
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Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
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