

Secy

From: Trent Clifton [trent@cliftonworld.com]  
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2008 11:42 PM  
To: Secy  
Subject: Opposition to Italian Nuclear Waste in Utah

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USNRC

February 25, 2008 (10:45am)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
RULEMAKINGS AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

To Whom It May Concern:

In recent weeks I have heard about the proposal Energy Solutions has to import nuclear waste from Italy. As a long-time resident of Utah, *I would like to express my disapproval* for such action.

I feel that Energy Solutions should *never* solicit (or bid) work that requires importing nuclear waste from another country, regardless the nuclear-grade level. The United States has enough nuclear waste to manage; we don't need another country's waste!

My complaint about the matter isn't centered on the fact that I'm opposed to the low-level radiation waste that will be imported to Utah. I disagree with the *principle* of inviting other nations to call the U.S. their trash grounds. I do not believe it is right for a local business to court a money-making opportunity at the expense of the local population. My fear is that this incident of inviting Italy to dispose their waste in Utah will propagate to a grander, more general invitation for other nations to follow suit. Little by little the waste will increase in radiation grade and public danger. Even if radiation grade doesn't increase, the sheer concentration of nuclear waste in our precious state poses a local and national health threat.

Is anyone taking a mind to the fact that the nuclear waste from Italy must be flown across many nations and millions of people? What if there were an accident and the plane carrying the waste crashed? How would the contaminated material be contained? (If I mistake in assuming the material is to be flown, apply the same idea to a boat ride, train ride, truck ride, or any other ride.)

Furthermore, I am opposed to worsening the environment of Utah. Years ago Utah citizens were subjected to harmful radiation fallout by the U.S. government's nuclear test site in Nevada. As the family and friends of those who died as a result, it is our duty to remember past mistakes regarding nuclear radiation (which, at the time, was approved by the governmental bureaucracies because of its relatively "innocuous" consequences—they soon learned their lesson!). It is our job to stand up and resist the repeat of any such mistake.

Utah already faces other dilemmas regarding the waste of environmentally damaging energy waste. Our state houses several coal-powered electricity plants that supply power for other states. This pollutes our air and de-beautifies our state's natural beauty. Increasing nuclear waste disposal in Utah only compounds the problem by adding even more factors to our environmental conundrum.

My earnest request is that the nuclear waste from Italy be permanently banned from entering the U.S. I base my plea upon the fact that the we citizens who live in close proximity to the waste disposal site simply do not want to worsen our potential exposure to harmful radiation. Bringing Italy's, or any other country's nuclear waste into our own country unnecessarily is begging for disaster—especially at a time when terrorists and other ill-wishers towards the U.S. could take advantage of concentrated radiation sites in some sort of fatal disaster. Let each nation handle its own waste or stop producing it all together.

Sincerely,

Trent Clifton  
Utah Resident, Registered Voter

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To: <secy@nrc.gov>  
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