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Haywood R. Martin, Chair  
Sierra Club Delta Chapter  
400 Glynnedale Ave.  
Lafayette, LA 70506

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USNRC

February 28, 2008 (4:30pm)

Office of the Secretary  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
RULEMAKINGS AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Dear Office of the Secretary,

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is currently considering applications (Nos. IW023 and XW013, Federal Register Volume 73, Number 28, 2/11/08) from EnergySolutions for import/export licenses that would bring 20,000 tons, 1 million cubic feet, of radioactive waste (mainly from Italian nuclear power and related industries) into the US for processing including incineration, transport and disposal.

In terms of volume, the application appears to allow close to all of the Italian "low and intermediate" level nuclear waste inventory to be brought to the US through US ports, on US roads, rails and/or waterways for processing in Tennessee and dumping either in Tennessee or in at the licensed nuclear dump in Utah.

The activities of the nuclear waste processors in Tennessee, including EnergySolutions, which release some nuclear waste into regular solid waste trash dumps and into recycling streams are currently being questioned and challenged in that state. Importing such massive amounts of nuclear waste for transport and processing could affect the ability to manage our own country's growing amounts nuclear waste.

We are concerned about the unprecedented large amounts of waste and radioactivity involved, potential impact on ports, transport routes, communities with processors and those downwind and downstream. We are also concerned about increased potential for radioactive materials imported by EnergySolutions to get into commerce or unregulated waste facilities, and the newness of the information to many potentially affected communities.

Our organization requests a 90-day extension on the time period allowed to offer public comment, request a hearing or file a petition to intervene in the application process for EnergySolutions import/export licenses for Italian nuclear waste.

Sincerely



Haywood Martin, Chair  
Sierra Club Delta Chapter

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