

NRCREP Resource

From: Lewis Patrie [patric.wncpsr@main.nc.us]
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To the Chief, Rulemaking, Directives, and Editing Branch,

This message pertains to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement, which addresses license applications for in-situ leach (ISL) uranium mining facilities. I am requesting that more time be granted to respond for the submission of comments in as much as some potential responders will have limited access to electronic technology.

Historically my work has provided me with opportunities to view native American areas that have been affected by past uranium mining operations and I have seen photographs which show how tailings from such operations provide for environmental contamination.

I recommend that the no action alternative be adopted. Construction or operation of ISL uranium milling facilities creates dangers to lives and health of persons both in the vicinity of and at more remote locations via contamination of earth, water and air. There should be careful epidemiological studies conducted related to such risks by competent independent scientists as to health effects that might result from the proposed mining activities, as well as from past operations, before any future mining activities are attempted.

Under the no action alternative, the NRC would not approve future license applications. This no action alternative could provide a baseline for comparison of potential environmental impacts.

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