

46

PRM-72-6
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Rulemaking Comments

From: Site Administrator [action@ucsusa.org] on behalf of Al Larson [alarson@brainerd.net]
Sent: Saturday, May 16, 2009 3:59 AM
To: Rulemaking Comments
Subject: Docket # PRM 72-6 (Reduce Vulnerability of Stored Nuclear Waste)

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USNRC

May 16, 2009

June 18, 2009 (2:29pm)

Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to encourage the NRC to take steps to increase the security and safety of nuclear waste stored at civilian nuclear reactor sites, which remains unacceptably vulnerable to a terrorist attack or accident. I am writing to urge you to roll back the Bush administration rule

changes that weaken the scientific foundation of the Endangered Species Act.

The rules in question allow any federal agency to decide for itself whether protected species would be threatened by its projects.

Previously, when a federal agency considered a project, such as a highway, dam, or mine, it was required to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service. The rules also sharply limit the types of information federal scientists can consider when evaluating federal projects.

Many government agencies do not have the scientific expertise to determine the consequences of federal projects for endangered species, and may have vested interests in the implementation of a project.

Consultations have, for decades, served as important checks and balances to keep our nation's biodiversity safe.

Sincerely,

Mr. Al Larson
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