

## NMP3CEm Resource

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**From:** geriaird@gmail.com on behalf of Geri Aird [geri@aird.us]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 12, 2009 9:45 PM  
**To:** NMP3COLEIS Resource  
**Subject:** Comment/ May 21, 2009 (Volume 74, Number 97)] [Notices] [Page 23895-23897]

Public Comment [Federal Register: May 21, 2009 (Volume 74, Number 97)] [Notices] [Page 23895-23897]

This is to inform the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, that I am making Public Comment on the subject above. **I oppose the building and operation of yet another nuclear power plant near Oswego, NY.** I have deep concerns about the potential human and environmental risks of nuclear mining, waste accumulation and Great Lakes water contamination.

**I support the position of Physicians for Social Responsibility, as set forth on their website, [www.psr.org](http://www.psr.org).**

"Studies have found that any increase in radiation exposure leads to an increase in risk for cancer. At various points in the nuclear fuel life cycle, nuclear power poses serious risks to public health.

Uranium mining has been shown to create devastating health effects on miners and communities. Miners and their families exposed to radon gas, a highly carcinogenic substance that emanates from uranium mining, have been diagnosed with small cell carcinoma and other forms of cancer. Uranium mining tends to be concentrated on indigenous lands, where impoverished communities, eager to find work, are uninformed of the environmental and health impacts of the mining. The effects have been so devastating in the United States that the Navajo Nation, upon whose lands sit one of the largest uranium reserves in the world, has outright banned the practice, even as they struggle with crushing poverty. Elsewhere in the world, serious human rights violations are being perpetuated against other indigenous communities in the name of fuel for nuclear reactors.

Radionuclides routinely released in nuclear reactor operations have been linked to developmental problems, birth defects, reproductive problems, cardiovascular disease, leukemia and other cancers. Pollutants from nuclear power such as tritium, which acts like water in the body, can enter fetuses through the placenta. Tritium leaks into groundwater have been reported all over the United States, from Arizona to New York. Epidemiological studies of children living near nuclear reactors show a positive association between leukemia and proximity to nuclear reactors.

The end of the fuel cycle and waste can also pose potential threats to human health. 'Low-level' radioactive waste, so classified based on its source and not its relative safety hazards, kept in shallow landfills can seep into groundwater and expose communities to an array of different radionuclides, from those with relatively short-half lives like tritium, to long-lived and highly toxic plutonium."

**No more nuclear power plants or nuclear waste! There's too much, already.**

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**Federal Register Notice:** 74FR23895  
**Comment Number:** 5

**Mail Envelope Properties** (f01928a00907121844u15126aefx20722075196d019d)

**Subject:** Comment/ May 21, 2009 (Volume 74, Number 97)] [Notices] [Page  
23895-23897]

**Sent Date:** 7/12/2009 9:44:51 PM

**Received Date:** 7/12/2009 9:44:53 PM

**From:** geriaird@gmail.com

**Created By:** geriaird@gmail.com

**Recipients:**

"NMP3COLEIS Resource" <NMP3.COLEIS@nrc.gov>

Tracking Status: None

**Post Office:** mail.gmail.com

<b>Files</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>
MESSAGE	2815	7/12/2009 9:44:53 PM

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**Expiration Date:**

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