

6/24/09
74 FR 30175
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PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: October 28, 2009
Received: October 28, 2009
Status: Pending_Post
Tracking No. 80a4cab
Comments Due: October 30, 2009
Submission Type: Web

Docket: NRC-2009-0257
Notice of Public Workshop on a Potential Rulemaking for Safe Disposal of Unique Waste Streams Including Significant Quantities of Depleted Uranium

Comment On: NRC-2009-0257-0001
Public Workshop: Potential Rulemaking for Safe Disposal of Unique Waste Streams Including Significant Quantities of Depleted Uranium

Document: NRC-2009-0257-DRAFT-0009
Comment on FR Doc # E9-14820

Submitter Information

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OCT 28 PM 4:20

RULES AND DIRECTIVES
BRANCH

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General Comment

To Whom It May Concern;

I have deep concerns about the proposed rule-making in regard to disposal of Depleted Uranium (DU). Since there is not a disposal pathway for depleted uranium, the NRC should not license any new enrichment facilities.

It is inappropriate to license any new uranium enrichment facility until regulations are in place governing disposal of depleted uranium and disposal facilities have implemented those regulations. The U.S. already has a massive inventory of depleted uranium still mixed with hexafluoride, so it cannot be disposed of. Once that separation occurs, the size of the waste stream and the fact that DU grows more radioactive over the course of one million years prohibits DU disposal at any of the current or pending low-level waste disposal facilities.

The NRC erred when it decided to formulate guidelines for depleted uranium disposal in a low-level waste disposal facility. That decision did not take into account the hundreds of thousands of years over which DU grows more radioactive.

The NRC must, as part of this rulemaking, prepare an environmental impact statement that fully evaluates DU disposal in a deep geologic repositior

Until the NRC is able to provide a clear description of "other unique waste streams," it must not attempt to formulate rules governing their disposal. Instead, the NRC should focus on reevaluating its decision that shallow land burial is adequate for depleted uranium disposal.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope that you will re-evaluate and cease the disposal and rule-making in regard to DU until the issue is fully studied.

SUNSI Review Complete
Template: ADM-013

E-READS = ADM-03
Add: C. GROSSMAN (cig2)
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Sincerely,
Che' Gilliland, Coupeville, WA

Add: C. Grossman (cjg2)
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