

From: [Zack Morris](#)
To: [Bollwerk, Paul](#)
Subject: NRC: No Need For Areva
Date: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 1:51:47 PM

Dear Atomic Safety and Licensing Board,

I'm writing to express concern over any new investment in nuclear infrastructure in Idaho. With the Fukushima tragedy and flooding of reactors in Omaha, NE, it's become obvious to me that nuclear accidents are very likely to occur once a generation. Boise has had some of the highest fallout from this in the country, with radioactive iodine at something like 80 times legal levels. The danger of nuclear power is becoming obvious even to people who previously supported it. Germany is abandoning nuclear power by 2022.

Investing in uranium fuel is not just bad practice, it also won't pay out, because 21st century reactors will probably use thorium instead. Also, wind turbines are already competitive with peak usage natural gas turbines and will soon begin competing with base-load plants. Europe is investing heavily in wind/solar/geothermal power and it's time for America to do the same.

NRC regulations for the implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) require the NRC to prepare a supplemental EIS in the event of "changed circumstances bearing on environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts." See 10 CFR 51.92(a). Three worldwide trends have combined to create just such changed circumstances with respect to the need for the proposed Areva uranium enrichment facility: a significant depression in the uranium market following the nuclear crisis in Japan, greatly increased cost estimates for new reactors, and a markedly reduced pace of new nuclear project construction. In light of these trends, the EIS' assertion that there is a need for the proposed Areva uranium enrichment factory – i.e., that its environmental impacts are justified -- is not supportable. Therefore, as required by 10 C.F.R. 51.92(f)(1), the NRC must revise the EIS and publish it in draft for public comment. If the EIS is not revised and re-published, the application must be rejected.

Thank you,

Zack Morris
515 Williams
Boise, ID 83706