

WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

From: Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Theresa Pretlow [tpp3@case.edu]
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2013 9:27 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 22, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

I am very concerned about how we store the radioactive fuel rods from nuclear reactors. We should not license or re-license any reactor until it has been proven that we can successfully isolate this, our most hazardous waste.

I am also concerned that many of our nuclear reactors have over-crowded fuel pools. These present safety threats to the communities and industries that surround the plants. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) should take immediate action to reduce the number of fuel assemblies in the water-filled pools. Before transferring the fuel rods to cask storage, the cask storage needs to be examined and reinforced to be able to safely store the fuel rods particularly those that qualify as high burn up fuel. Hardened on-site storage of the casks should become the choice for storage.

I have not seen good evidence that nuclear power is sustainable. The true costs of nuclear power need to be accurately evaluated and made transparent to the American taxpayers. These costs must be after all subsidies are stripped away and include initial construction, monitoring and maintenance, long-term nuclear waste storage/disposal, the long-term costs of decommissioning, and the environmental footprint from mining to disposal compared to that of renewables.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Theresa Pretlow
3061 Chadbourne Rd
Shaker Heights, OH 44120-2446
(216) 561-8539

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