

WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

From: Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Jeanne Bergen [jeaberg@verizon.net]
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2013 10:26 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 22, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

This message is because I am concerned about how we store our most hazardous waste, 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 waste.

While we are working on the solution, I'm also concerned that many of our nuclear reactors have over-crowded fuel pools on site. These present safety threats to the communities and industries that surround the plants. The 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 store the fuel rods safely, particularly those that qualify as high burn-up fuel. Hardened on-site storage of the casks should become the choice for storage.

The sustainability of nuclear power is of great concern to me: The EIS needs to evaluate the true costs of nuclear power after the subsidies are stripped away. The long-term costs of decommissioning need to be considered as well. The ongoing costs to US taxpayers should be transparent in this EIS.

Finally, the EIS should consider the option of creating no further nuclear waste at all in the future by comparing the environmental footprint of nuclear, from mining to long-term waste disposal, to that of renewables and energy efficiency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Bergen
PO Box 478
Philmont, NY 12565-0478

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