

WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

From: Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Rita Houlihan [ritahoulihan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2013 10:56 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 22, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

I am concerned about the safe storage of our most hazardous waste, the radioactive fuel rods from nuclear reactors . No new licenses or renewed licenses should be granted for any reactor until it has been proven that this dangerous nuclear waste can be successfully isolated.

I am 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 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.

The sustainability of nuclear power. The EIS needs to evaluate the true costs of nuclear power after the subsidies are stripped away. The long-term costs of decommissioning must be included in the evaluation of true costs. The ongoing costs to US taxpayers should be absolutely clear in this EIS.

Finally, the EIS should compare the environmental footprint of nuclear including all phases, from mining to long term waste disposal to the environmental footprint of renewables and increasing energy efficiency. It may prove better to eliminate nuclear power, and therefore, not create additional nuclear waste for future generations.

Sincerely,

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