

## WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

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**From:** Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Melissa Pearson [mpearson@mum.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2013 4:54 PM  
**To:** RulemakingComments Resource  
**Subject:** Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 23, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

Our family and Iowa community is very concerned about how our country stores 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 resolving this issue, an added concern is over-crowded fuel pools that many nuclear reactors have 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 is the underlying concern. Has the EIS evaluated the true costs of nuclear power excluding subsidies?  
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 not creating 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.

Sincerely,

Melissa Pearson  
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