

## WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

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**From:** Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Susan Bannister [suebirch@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2013 12:01 AM  
**To:** RulemakingComments Resource  
**Subject:** Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 23, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

How we store our most hazardous waste, the radioactive fuel rods from nuclear reactors is a matter of grave concern. We must not license or re-license any reactor until it has been proven that we can successfully isolate this waste.

Many of our nuclear reactors have over-crowded fuel pools on site. These are safety threats to the communities and industries that surround the plants. The NRC must act to reduce the number of fuel assemblies in the water-filled pools. Before transferring the fuel rods to cask storage, the cask storage must be examined and reinforced for safe storage of fuel rods, particularly those that qualify as high burn up fuel. Hardened on-site storage of the casks is the current best choice for storage.

We must begin to address the sustainability, or lack thereof, of nuclear power. The EIS must evaluate the true costs of nuclear power without its current subsidies. The long-term costs of decommissioning must be considered as well. The ongoing costs to US taxpayers must be transparent in this EIS.

Finally, the EIS must consider the option of not making any nuclear waste by comparing the environmental footprint of nuclear - including mining and long term waste disposal - to renewables and energy efficiency.

Sincerely,

Susan Bannister  
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