

WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

From: Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of William Davis [rees@hvc.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2013 9:56 AM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Protect our communities from radioactive waste! Decommission ALL of the nuclear power plants IMMEDIATELY!

Sep 23, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

I am writing you 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. Obviously, we cannot solve this problem any time soon because we have been working on it for decades with no end in sight. We should decommission ALL of the nuclear plants immediately and focus of the problem of the existing waste, particularly at Fukushima and the plants with the same design, for instance, Indian Point at Buchanan, New York.

While we are working on the solution, 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. We should decommission ALL of the nuclear plants immediately before there is a disaster.

I am also concerned about the non-existent 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 need to be considered as well. The ongoing costs to US taxpayers should be transparent in this EIS. We should liquidate the nuclear corporations to pay for the decommissioning.

Finally, the EIS should consider the option of not making any 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. No more nuclear energy plants should ever be built!

Sincerely,

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