

WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

From: Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Annie Mccombs [amccombs269@netscape.net]
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2013 6:56 AM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 23, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

I am writing you because I am concerned about how you allow storage of the most hazardous waste, the radioactive fuel rods from nuclear reactors. You should not license or re-license any reactor until it has been proven that those who produce this nuclear waste can also successfully isolate this waste.

I am also concerned that too many 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.

I am also concerned about 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 need to be considered as well.
The ongoing costs to US taxpayers should be transparent in this EIS.

Note: when Wall Street is ready to take the financial risk of investing in nuclear power plants, without taxpayer bailout provisions, then we all should see that the industry has found successful ways to keep such power plants safe, along with the nuclear waste generated.

I await such investment.

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.

Sincerely,

Annie Mccombs
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