

Rulemaking1CEm Resource

From: RulemakingComments Resource
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2013 1:37 PM
To: Rulemaking1CEm Resource
Subject: FW: Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

**DOCKETED BY USNRC—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
SECY-067**

PR#: PR-51
FRN#: 78FR56775
NRC DOCKET#: NRC-2012-0246
SECY DOCKET DATE: 9/23/13
TITLE: Waste Confidence—Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel
COMMENT#: 00213

-----Original Message-----

From: Sierra Club [<mailto:information@sierraclub.org>] On Behalf Of Daniel Simon
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2013 12:26 PM
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 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.

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.

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.

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.

[I am also EXTREMELY concerned about the vulnerability of US reactors to an extended loss of power event. It seems to me that this is a "single" mode failure that every US reactor is subject to.]

Sincerely,

Daniel Simon
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Hearing Identifier: Secy_RuleMaking_comments_Public
Email Number: 226

Mail Envelope Properties (377CB97DD54F0F4FAAC7E9FD88BCA6D00127B3A5B24E)

Subject: FW: Protect our communities from radioactive waste!
Sent Date: 11/20/2013 1:37:18 PM
Received Date: 11/20/2013 1:37:19 PM
From: RulemakingComments Resource

Created By: RulemakingComments.Resource@nrc.gov

Recipients:
"Rulemaking1CEM Resource" <Rulemaking1CEM.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office: HQCLSTR01.nrc.gov

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	2333	11/20/2013 1:37:19 PM

Options
Priority: Standard
Return Notification: No
Reply Requested: No
Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received: