

WCRM-GEIS1CEm Resource

From: Sierra Club [information@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Daniel Gartner [danwgartner47@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2013 11:23 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Protect our communities from radioactive waste!

Sep 23, 2013

Allison McFarlane

Dear McFarlane,

I'm 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 concerned that many of our nuclear reactors have over-crowded fuel pools on site. These present safety threats to the nearby communities. The NRC should take 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. 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 and secure waste storage need to be considered. The EIS should consider the option of producing no nuclear waste at all in the future by comparing the environmental costs of nuclear (from mining uranium to long term waste storage) to that of renewables and energy conservation measures.

Sincerely,

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