

Rulemaking1CEm Resource

From: RulemakingComments Resource
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2013 10:43 AM
To: Rulemaking1CEm Resource
Subject: FW: Id.No. NRC-2012-0246

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

PR#: PR-51

FRN#: 78FR56775

NRC DOCKET#: NRC-2012-0246

SECY DOCKET DATE: 11/20/13

TITLE: Waste Confidence—Continued Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel

COMMENT#: 00235

From: Marty G [<mailto:honmgret@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2013 3:28 PM
To: RulemakingComments Resource
Subject: Id.No. NRC-2012-0246

Please include the following comments in the official record:

Despite more than 30 years of anticipation, there is no permanent off-site waste storage facility for radio-active nuclear waste. There will be none in the foreseeable future.

Presently, highly radioactive used spent fuel cells are stored on site. At Diablo Canyon nuclear plant, most are in pools. These pools are overcrowded and becoming more so as spent fuel cells are regularly replaced. These overcrowded pools of spent fuel cells are a threat to the health and safety of the community.

Diablo Canyon nuclear plant is constructed on and surrounded by earthquake faults. The potential for unexpected damage to the plant as a result of earthquakes is always present. In addition to the possibility of a greater than anticipated natural disaster, the plant is also vulnerable to human error accidents and damage intentionally created.

The Fukushima nuclear plant disaster shows us that radio-active pools of spent fuel cells are much more vulnerable to damage than those stored in dry casks. The inexorable conclusion is that reliance on long term storage in pools must end as soon as possible. The NRC should mandate an urgent, accelerated rate of transfer of spent fuels cells from pools to dry casks.

Furthermore, the ephemeral permanent storage place is not likely to materialize during our, our children's and our grandchildren's lives, if ever. And, if this permanent storage place does come to us from out of the ether, the problem of transporting ever increasing numbers of radio-active spent fuel cells will plague our society. Thus, it is imperative that the production of more and more of these potentially disastrous spent fuel cells must stop. First and foremost, the NRC should not re-license existing nuclear plants, primarily the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant; nor should the NRC license any new nuclear power plants. Nuclear power facilities must be shut down as soon as possible, to assure the safety and health of the American people.

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Hearing Identifier: Secy_RuleMaking_comments_Public
Email Number: 249

Mail Envelope Properties (377CB97DD54F0F4FAAC7E9FD88BCA6D00127B3AE0D73)

Subject: FW: Id.No. NRC-2012-0246
Sent Date: 11/25/2013 10:43:07 AM
Received Date: 11/25/2013 10:44:08 AM
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	2535	11/25/2013 10:44:08 AM

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