

## WCRM-GEIS5CEm Resource

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**From:** Richard Berkowitz [berkowitz.rich@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 19, 2013 4:41 PM  
**To:** RulemakingComments Resource  
**Subject:** Proceed with Rule making

12/19/2013

Secretary  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

RE: Docket ID No. NRC-2012-0246

I strongly support the NRC's efforts to keep our nuclear facilities safe and reliable. As the NRC continues its Waste Confidence rule making, I urge the NRC to proceed efficiently.

A timely resolution on this matter is essential. Existing and future nuclear facilities need greater certainty about licensing timelines and decisions in order to maintain and expand this vital part of the U.S. energy portfolio.

Over the past few decades American nuclear consumers have been forced to shoulder the increasing costs of nuclear waste management. Without a federal waste management system in place, utilities and consumers across the country have been shackled by the costs of maintaining its nuclear waste on existing reactor sites while continuing to pay \$750 million annually into the Nuclear Waste Fund.

Fortunately, American nuclear providers have successfully demonstrated that they can safely store nuclear waste while we wait for the federal government to enact a long-term solution.

Federal policy makers must act now to develop consolidated facilities for interim storage, as recommended by the President's Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future and supported by a bipartisan group of Congressmen. Notwithstanding, our nation must also pursue an agreed-upon site for permanent disposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for nuclear power.

Sincerely,

Richard Berkowitz  
130 Bradhurst Ave.  
#1003  
New York, NY 10039

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