

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 11/20/15 3:06 PM
Received: November 20, 2015
Status: Pending_Post
Tracking No. 1jz-8md3-7gty
Comments Due: November 20, 2015
Submission Type: Web

Docket: NRC-2015-0051

Department of Energy; Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada; Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Comment On: NRC-2015-0051-0004

Department of Energy; Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada; Correction and Extension of Comment Period

Document: NRC-2015-0051-DRAFT-0083

Comment on FR Doc # 2015-23510

Submitter Information

Name: Christopher Lish

General Comment

Friday, November 20, 2015

Cindy Bladey
Office of Administration
Mail Stop: OWFN-12-H08
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

8/21/2015
@ FR 50875
95

RECEIVED
2015 NOV 20 PM 3:14
RULES AND REGULATIONS
SEARCH
FBI/DOJ

Subject: Reject proposed Yucca Mountain dump for nuclear fuel and radioactive waste -- Supplement to the U.S. Department of Energy's Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, Nevada (NUREG-2184) (Docket ID: NRC-2015-0051)

Dear Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Stephen G. Burns,

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Draft Supplement to Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) has absurdly concluded that radioactive releases from the proposed Yucca Mountain high-level radioactive waste dump would be small--that is, essentially minimal, and harmless--over the course of a million years into the future. However, if irradiated nuclear fuel is ever buried at Yucca, there would be an enormous quantity of leakage into groundwater, creating a "nuclear sacrifice zone" over a broad region downstream.

"Then I say the Earth belongs to each generation during its course, fully and in its own right, no generation

SUNGI Review Complete
Memorandum = ADM-013

FR-EDS = ADM-03
add = C. Furedo (class)

can contract debts greater than may be paid during the course of its own existence."

-- Thomas Jefferson

This leakage would result in the hazardous--even deadly--radioactive contamination of the groundwater that currently is used for drinking and irrigation water in Nevada's agricultural Amargosa Valley, the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Death Valley National Park, and the Timbisha Shoshone Indian community inhabiting Death Valley. The potential for disproportionate impacts on minority or low-income populations is especially high, considering the current lifestyle of the Timbisha Shoshone Indian community, as well as the traditional lifestyle of the Western Shoshone Indian Nation.

"It is horrifying that we have to fight our own government to save the environment."

-- Ansel Adams

The potential for cumulative impacts associated with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions is very high. After all, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, the Department of Energy, and the military conducted atmospheric nuclear weapons tests in the vicinity of Yucca Mountain from 1951 to 1963. They continued to conduct underground full-scale nuclear weapons tests at the Nevada Test Site from 1963 to 1992, many of which spread radioactivity to the atmosphere and environment, as well as contaminated regional groundwater. Even after 1992, nuclear weapons testing has continued at the Nevada Test Site, in the form of sub-critical experiments involving plutonium. Another cumulative impact involves the large-scale transport to, and dumping of so-called "low" level radioactive wastes at, the Nevada Test Site.

"The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to its children."

-- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

I join with the State of Nevada Agency for Nuclear Projects, several environmental groups, and others in urging Nuclear Regulatory Commission to extend the public comment deadline by at least an additional 30 days. I also request that additional in-person public meetings be scheduled in California (where Yucca's radioactively contaminated groundwater would ultimately surface in springs), as well as elsewhere across the country given that Yucca's opening would launch the unprecedented, large-scale shipment of risky high-level radioactive waste by truck, train, and barge, through most states. And I request that all in-person public meetings also include the call-in option, already being provided at other locations, on other dates.

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

-- Aldo Leopold

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,
Christopher Lish
San Rafael, CA