

WCS_CISFEISCEm Resource

From: Brian Ternamian <alphajag@att.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 1:30 PM
To: WCS_CISFEIS Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Docket ID NRC=2016-023

This is a profoundly terrible idea. The private for-profit handoff of so many entities and responsibilities in this country has very often proven to be a disastrous and needlessly expensive idea. It is only a matter of time until the for-profit company cuts corners, curries favors and political clout to improve their bottom line while making this country less: less safe, less clean, less compliant - just less, much less.

In this case the risk of nuclear contamination from shoddy practices is scary and too dangerous to even consider no matter the source. There is a sadly perverse and pervasive history of private for-profit companies intentionally and carelessly handling contaminated waste from hospitals to manufacturing plants, to municipal dumps that SHOULD make this proposition stillborn at the outset.

Alas political agendas and a 'devil-may-care' attitude in our current government flies in the face of any logic and sanity anyone could bring to bear. All this from Republicans and trump in the service of mammon, their god who runs the business and lobbying side of things for them. It'll probably go through anyway as pressure is brought to bear on this few remaining folks who have a conscience and sense of public duty left.

Waste Control Specialists' (WCS) application to store tons of irradiated nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste from nuclear reactors around the country in Andrews County, Texas, will cause thousands of unnecessary nuclear waste shipments across the US.

Risks of Transporting Nuclear Waste:

As you prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of WCS's nuclear waste storage application, I urge you to include the risks of transporting toxic waste on our country's highways, railways and waterways.

The EIS for Waste Control Specialists' license application should include a designation of transportation routes and the array of potential impacts of accidents or malicious attacks that could occur along those routes. If the license is approved, deadly waste would be transported through communities, farmland, sensitive natural areas and watersheds throughout the country for 24 years.

The public comment period should be extended for 90 more days to enable parties along all these potential routes to comment.

Risks to Local Groundwater:

The EIS should independently review the risk of groundwater contamination at the site, especially since the entire Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Radioactive Materials Division recommended denying a license for "low-level" radioactive waste at the Waste Control Specialists site due to the proximity of groundwater.

Risks of Accident:

The EIS should consider potential impacts from accidents or radioactive waste-related acts of malice along transport routes and at the site, including impacts to people, land and water. In-depth research should examine radiation monitoring and cumulative impacts of multiple facilities near the WCS site, site security, engineering adequacy of the storage pad and seismic stresses, and the adequacy of the crane that would move radioactive waste.

Local Community Does Not Consent:

The local community has not consented to becoming a national radioactive waste dumping ground. They should not have to risk contamination of our land, aquifers or air or the health of plants, wildlife and livestock.

Risks of Temporary Site Becoming Permanent:

The EIS should address the impacts of “interim storage” becoming dangerous permanent de facto disposal, and the possibility that the waste might never be disposed of in a scientifically viable geologic repository using a reliable isolation system. With political pressure gone, the waste would likely never move again.

These risks - when included in your review – make the decision to reject WCSs application clear.

Sincerely,

Brian Ternamian

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Federal Register Notice: 81FR79531
Comment Number: 2228

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Subject: [External_Sender] Docket ID NRC=2016-023
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