

WCS_CISFEISCEm Resource

From: Barbara Smith <barbaradsmith@ameritech.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 15, 2017 10:32 AM
To: WCS_CISFEIS Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Docket ID NRC=2016-0231: Include Transport in EIS

To the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:

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

Please ensure the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) includes the risks of national transportation as well as the risks of the site becoming permanent by default. Include transportation methods, specific routes, and all their potential impacts in the Environmental Impact Statement.

Neither the transportation nor the storage plans for this highly dangerous waste appear to be the least realistic.

Therefore I urge that this plan be denied in the interest of the health, well being and safety of all involved.

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

If the license gets approved, deadly waste would be transported through communities, farmland, sensitive natural areas, and watersheds throughout the country for 24 years. Even one small accident would be one too many. Despite assurances that accident damage would be minimal, real life disasters have been known to exceed the worst anticipated scenarios.

Please know that I don't consent to or support local communities becoming radioactive waste dumping grounds. We should not have to risk contamination of our land, aquifers or air or the health of plants, wildlife and livestock. Human exposure to high-level radioactive waste can lead to immediate death.

Homeowners' insurance doesn't cover radioactive contamination. A single rail car could haul waste containing as much plutonium as the bomb dropped on Nagasaki. There have been serious train accidents throughout the country in recent years, including near the WCS site. Two trains have collided head-on in West Texas last year at 65 mph. The casks on the market today have never been tested, cannot be inspected for cracks and are not designed to meet real road, barge, or rail conditions that they would encounter in transit.

The EIS should address these potential dangers and worst case scenario consequences. Consider the potential impacts from accidents or radioactive waste related acts of malice along transport routes and at the site, including impacts to people, land, air, crops, animals and water.

Neither the transportation nor the storage plans for this highly dangerous waste appear to be the least realistic.

Therefore I urge that this plan be denied in the interest of the health, well being and safety of all involved.

Sincerely,

Barbara Smith
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