

WCS_CISFEISCEm Resource

From: R Gardner <nmlady2000@hotmail.com>
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To: WCS_CISFEIS Resource
Cc: R Gardner
Subject: [External_Sender] WCS Scoping Comments

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Office of Administration 4-28-2017

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US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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Scoping Comments: Waste Control Specialists CIS

As a resident of Eunice New Mexico I am opposed to the Application submitted by WCS to store high level nuclear waste just 4-5 miles from my home.

I am concerned for the safety of the people that live near and around the rail road that will be used to bring the waste to the site. There are people living very close to the rail road and also near the spur that WCS will use to move the waste on to their site in Texas.

I am concerned that this small community of 2700 people have only a volunteer fire department force and I do not feel they can manage an accident of this magnitude since it is doubtful our fire department is adequately funded and supplied with necessary equipment for a dangerous fire fight. WCS must fund and train and enable all NM fire departments including Eunice, Jal, Hobbs, and Lovington and not depend on Texas to make a rapid response since Andrews is 32 miles away and Hobbs is 18 miles away.

I am concerned about the 4000 or so estimated railcars with high level nuclear waste that will come through my town and how it will impact our way of life and safety. Since it is estimated to go on for 40 years or so I don't have the authority and neither does the US government to impose this sentence on the babies and young people of this town. Danger from day one through 40 more years is too much to even grasp at this point.

I am concerned that if there is a release of radioactive nuclides whether it be an accident or sabotage there will be many of my friends and family injured or worse, find out later that they have an illness or cancer due to exposures.

I am concerned about the safety record at WCS and how even employees are not properly protected due to improperly working equipment. Is WCS doing all it can to protect their people and the general public. Since it already receives low level radioactive materials from other areas, is WCS able to handle this other more dangerous waste in a truly safe manner?

I am very concerned when it comes to reviewing the WCS application and learning that they have already gotten all the statistics on the non-english speaking public and the almost 50% Hispanic population that have been selected as expendable humans who must live with this waste for an undetermined time since no permanent repository exists. I don't believe that a determined effort will be made to find a final storage place for this high level waste.

I am concerned that along with the other facilities including 2 oil waste recovery facilities and the fracking in this very area will overwhelm the traffic situation. The Urenco facility has heavy traffic as well as the WCS site and the Lea Country Landfill are also in this area. It appears like the compounding of toxic and dangerous industries are more than happy to put their polluting factories here. Since we have experienced earthquakes a few years ago I am also concerned how those containers would be affected if more than one broke open or toppled over.

Has anyone determined how to repair or move waste from a broken or cracked container?

I am concerned that Eunice will become like those areas in northern NM where there was contamination of workers and the Rio Grande and the land surrounding uranium facilities. All those instances could have been avoided if proper due diligence was performed. Why are people of color the sacrificed when dealing with the negative aspects of nuclear power, the toxic waste is not here now and we do not want it. There is great concern about this project but unfortunately the public doesn't speak out but there have been several that have signed petitions stating that they are against this dump as well as the Eddy Lea Alliance-Holtec dump.

I am concerned about the transportation routes that will be used to get the waste to Eunice NM. Many routes go through large and small communities and I am certain that they are concerned and they should be educated about what is moving on the rails. I am also concerned how congested railways will be alerted to this radioactive waste and how can exposure be reduced if a train is passing and vehicle is near and or another train sitting alongside a loaded radioactive load.

I am concerned about the integrity of the containers used in transport and storage of the waste. I believe that all nuclear waste should be stored in the best and most robust of containers at all times. We humans deserve protection from the toxic and radioactive materials that we come near.

We as humans can devise and plan but it seem that the bottom line is saving money so that some else can line their pockets. This is one area where we should not be stingy nor careless.

The Department of Energy performed their scoping meetings and at the one in Arizona, I was assured that no community would be saddled with the waste if they didn't consent. Well, Eunice does not consent yet here is the scoping for this unwanted, non-consent based project.

I actively support the No-action alternative. Leave the HLW at the reactor sites, prepare those facilities for decommissioning and storage for longer term storage and continue searching for a viable permanent repository. These reactor sites already have security of top standards and they have created communities that already live with their waste. Since these communities actually use nuclear powered electricity, they must deal with it. Do not shove it down our throats because you/they don't want to live with it. It is not my patriotic duty nor my responsibility to bail out these utility companies that want to bring this waste to my town.

I ask that the NRC not license the WCS facility for temporary storage of high level waste. We do not consent to high level waste being stored in Texas or New Mexico.

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