

From: [Brent Marchbanks](#)
To: [RulemakingComments.Resource](#)
Subject: [External_Sender] Nu-Scale Reactors-Evacuations Plans
Date: Monday, June 12, 2017 3:06:18 PM

To Whom It may Concern:

Please add my letter and comments to the chorus you have been hearing from objecting to the elimination of any significant emergency evacuation plan requirements for the untested nuclear reactors proposed to be built in Eastern Idaho (adjacent to the INL).

I'm not an engineer. But in most major engineering design evaluations, you build scale models, and test them. Here, the government proposes to fund the construction of a set of reactors of untested new design with no requirement at all for safety of those down wind and down stream (just in case the untested science isn't perfect).

Idaho already has radioactive isotopes in its Snake River Aquifer that is the major source of irrigation water for our potatoes and other crops, as well as drinking water for 200,000 citizens. This was the result of "state of the art" disposal practices in the 50's and 60's.

I understand that a feature of the Nu-Scale design is to have the water filled cooling tanks below ground! Eastern Idaho sits on top of a huge (porous) lava plain, and has an earthquake fault line running through it! (I've lived in Boise thirty-five years. I've felt the quakes that originate there clear across the state.)

There is another issue about Nu-Scale that concerns me, although not related directly to the proposal to eliminate meaningful evacuation zone requirements: The water the new design will waste. Nu-Scale's proposal would take up more water per kilowatt generated than conventional reactors. Water is scarce in the West.

Why this private outfit's scheme is being touted as an appropriate tool for the relatively low populated western regions of our country is beyond me. We need clean water more than we need a marginal increase in that source of 20% of our electrical energy supply.

Respectfully submitted,

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