

CHAIRMAN Resource

From: Robert Rutkowski <r_e_rutkowski@att.net>
Sent: Monday, September 17, 2018 4:46 PM
To: CHAIRMAN Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Nuclear Waste Dump License Application, New Mexicans Do Not Want a High-Level Radioactive Waste Dump in Their Community

Kristine Svinicki, Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
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Re: Nuclear Waste Dump License Application, New Mexicans Do Not Want a High-Level Radioactive Waste Dump in Their Community

Dear Chair:

A proposal to store tons of nuclear waste in Hobbs, New Mexico, from commercial reactors nationwide is drawing fierce opposition from tens of thousands of community members, activists and public officials. Public Citizen filed for intervention in a license application by Holtec International.

Public Citizen's members and allies have sent more than 10,000 comments in opposition to Holtec's license application as part of a wider effort that has attracted more than 25,000 comments in opposition. Throughout the process, the NRC has marginalized New Mexico community voices and failed to adequately account for local concerns.

There are major risks in the proposed transportation of this high-level and dangerous radioactive waste including cask leaks, terrorist actions in urban areas, not to mention the inadequacy and many safety concerns with the transportation system.

Holtec International's license application refuses to acknowledge the possibility of an accident during transport of the nuclear material, which would occur via rail lines across the U.S. Each rail car will hold more nuclear material than was present in the bomb dropped on Nagasaki during World War II. The routes to transport waste to the proposed site in New Mexico crisscross the U.S., potentially putting people across the country at risk of exposure to radiation. In New Mexico, an accident involving a single car could put anyone within 50 miles of the rail line at risk for exposure to radiation. Holtec's application insists that an accident is not possible, even though the NRC estimates that an accident with a train carrying nuclear waste will happen on average once every ten thousand trips.

The NRC has not listened to the public. If they had, they would know that New Mexico residents and people along the transport routes do not support this proposal. This intervention, will elevate their voices.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely,
Robert E. Rutkowski

cc:
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