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ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION ON NUCLEAR POWER

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(NRC PUBLIC DOCUMENT ROOM)

119 E. Aaron Dr.
State College, Pa.,
16801
16 July 1979

Mr. Jack E. Rothfleisch
U.S. NRC, Div. of Waste Management
396-SS, Washington, D.C., 20555

Dear Mr Rothfleisch:

The following comment is directed to the Nine Mile Lake project of Rockxy Mountain Energy Co., et al, as per your notice in the Federal Register at 44 FR 37351.

It is recommended that the full radiological impact of this project be evaluated. Radon released as a result of this project will certainly travel further than 80 km away from the project site. Radiological impacts will also be present more than 50 years into the future. In particular, the uranium removed from the ground is ~~x~~ expected to be used as feed for isotopic enrichment. As such, most of it becomes waste (enrichment tails). Over a very long time, the uranium-238 content of this waste will decay to radon-222. The evaluation ~~ax~~ of such future effects is required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

It is also recommended that the specific plans for aquifer restoration be included along with details of the experience of demonstrations of this method. The long term effects of remaining materials after restoration should be evaluated.

In no case should an impact be ruled ~~x~~ "Neglegable" because it is less than some other impact unrelated to this project. NEPA requires an evaluation in numbers of the impact of THIS federal action not other events.

Sincerely,
William A. Lochstet
Wm. A. Lochstet

FEE EXEMPT

12555 Comments only

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