

Harmony with All Living Things (H.A.L.T.)

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PROPOSED RULE

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July 16, 1979

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Secretary of the Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

I would like to comment on the new rules (7-16-79) issued by the NRC which created requirements for the safe shipment of spent fuels.

It is encouraging to see the Federal Government recognize the potentials for disaster in this situation. Your involvement now can reduce the magnitude of any such catastrophe which may occur in the future. We at the local level are hearten to see your respect for our autonomy. Thank you for not pre-empting local laws and allowing us to be more restrictive if we so choose. In an effort to help improve your guidelines, I submit the following list of suggestions.

Shipments shall not pass through any military ocean terminal or at any time be in proximity to explosives or any other volatile material.

Require all emergency response units along the route of shipment to prepare and submit to the NRC for approval plans for incidents which may occur en route.

Liability and Limit of Liability should be identified and made known to citizens and governments along the route of shipment.

Route should avoid intersections and two lane highways to the greatest degree possible.

Require notification of each shipment to local authorities as well as NRC.

Require publication of proposed routes in Federal Register and allow for public comment before the route can be approved.

Include a provision for holding local public hearings prior to route approval, if requested by citizens or governments along the route of shipment.

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Require the shipper to prepare and submit to the NRC for approval, emergency response plans for incidents which may occur en route.

Embargo all shipments of spent fuel until such time as they can be directly shipped to a demonstrated permanent and safe disposal site.

It is my desire that these comments may be useful and constructive in our mutual concern. Thank you for this opportunity and your efforts.

Sincerely,

Marion L. Rogers

Marion L. Rogers

lpf

cc American Friends Service Committee

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