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PROPOSED RULE  
(53 FR 21550)

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PO Box 202045  
Anchorage, AK 99520  
February 7, 1990

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
DOCKETING & SERVICE  
BRANCH

Secretary  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555  
ATTN: Docketing and Service Branch

Dear Secretary,

I am writing regarding the proposed rule "Transportation Regulations; Compatibility with the IAEA".

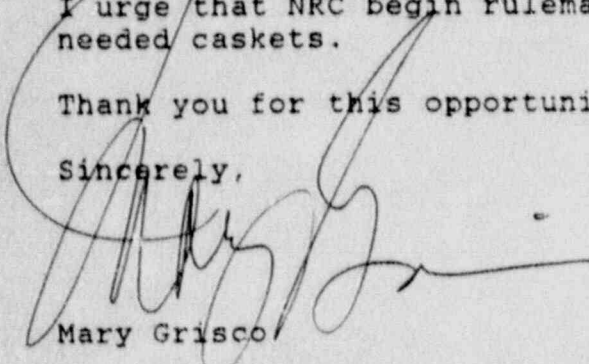
I urge that you adopt the criteria for air shipments of plutonium included in Sections 71.64, 71.74 and 71.88.

Quite frankly, most of us thought that the matter of using caskets that had passed the standards we fought for in the Murkowski amendment had been settled. NRC's willingness to adopt rules that will lessen these standards betrays our trust in NRC's ability to work for the good of the public. NRC needs to require the most rigorous standards for transport, handling, and storage of atomic and nuclear materials. Suggestions from other countries and industry that they will take their business elsewhere or that they cannot meet the standards are not reasons to lessen standards that protect the public and minimize risks.

While I remain unconvinced about the need for this growing international plutonium commerce, I urge that the risks to those of us in the flightpaths be minimized. The Murkowski amendment provided the framework for increasing the margin of safety for air transport. I urge that NRC begin rulemaking so that industry can develop the needed caskets.

Thank you for this opportunity to add my comments.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Grisco

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