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PROPOSED RULE (45 FR 70874)  
SMELTED ALLOYS

Secretary of the Commission,  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20555

December 5, 1980

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

Secretary of the Commission  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Secretary:

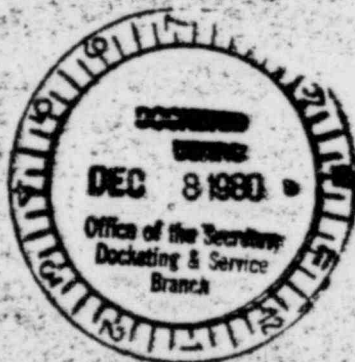
I was shocked to learn that the NRC has proposed licensing exemptions for radioactive scrap metal smelting. As specialists you are certainly aware that any amount of radiation is dangerous, and I think it is the height of irresponsibility to propose that radioactive materials be used in such items as cars, furniture, utensils, and coins. The negligent attitude of the NRC is well typified in its own news release of October 29, 1980, which states: "By smelting this scrap it is hoped to reduce the contamination . . ." (emphasis added).

Public health and safety must not be allowed to hinge on "hopes"; it is the responsibility of the NRC to see that it rests on some firmer foundation. I urge you to retain the regulations prohibiting the use of uranium-contaminated metals in smelted alloys.

Please respond to me on this matter.

Sincerely,

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