



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

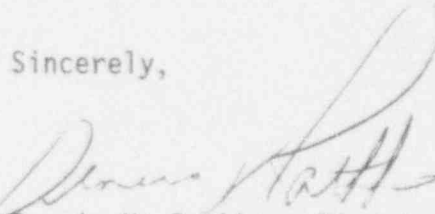
July 2, 1993

The Honorable Philip R. Sharp, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the subcommittee is a copy of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, to be published in the Federal Register, for public comment. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is proposing to amend 10 CFR Part 60, its regulation governing the disposal of high-level radioactive waste in geologic repositories. The proposed rule would clarify the regulatory requirements for the assessment of the repository siting criteria of 10 CFR 60.122 and the relationship of those requirements to post-closure performance. Part 60 would be further amended, to remove from the siting criteria, the terms "adequately investigated" and "adequately evaluated," which have been identified as sources of regulatory uncertainty. Finally, the procedural provisions related to the assessment methodology are revised and moved from 10 CFR 60.122 to 10 CFR 60.21, the procedural section of the rule. These proposed amendments are necessary to provide clarity and consistency in the Commission's regulations.

Sincerely,



Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:

1. Proposed Amendment to 10 CFR
Part 60

cc: The Honorable Michael Bilirakis

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PDR PR
60 MISC PDR



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

July 2, 1993

The Honorable Richard H. Lehman, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Committee on Natural Resources
United States House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the subcommittee is a copy of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, to be published in the Federal Register, for public comment. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is proposing to amend 10 CFR Part 60, its regulation governing the disposal of high-level radioactive waste in geologic repositories. The proposed rule would clarify the regulatory requirements for the assessment of the repository siting criteria of 10 CFR 60.122 and the relationship of those requirements to post-closure performance. Part 60 would be further amended, to remove from the siting criteria, the terms "adequately investigated" and "adequately evaluated," which have been identified as sources of regulatory uncertainty. Finally, the procedural provisions related to the assessment methodology are revised and moved from 10 CFR 60.122 to 10 CFR 60.21, the procedural section of the rule. These proposed amendments are necessary to provide clarity and consistency in the Commission's regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dennis K. Rathbun", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:

1. Proposed Amendment to 10 CFR
Part 60

cc: The Honorable Barbara Vucanovich

July 2, 1993

The Honorable Richard H. Lehman, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources
Committee on Natural Resources
United States House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the subcommittee is a copy of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, to be published in the Federal Register, for public comment. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is proposing to amend 10 CFR Part 60, its regulation governing the disposal of high-level radioactive waste in geologic repositories. The proposed rule would clarify the regulatory requirements for the assessment of the repository siting criteria of 10 CFR 60.122 and the relationship of those requirements to post-closure performance. Part 60 would be further amended, to remove from the siting criteria, the terms "adequately investigated" and "adequately evaluated," which have been identified as sources of regulatory uncertainty. This would provide a more absolute standard for demonstrating compliance. Finally, the procedural provisions related to the assessment methodology are revised and moved from 10 CFR 60.122 to 10 CFR 60.21, the procedural section of the rule. These proposed amendments are necessary to provide clarity and consistency in the Commission's regulations.

Sincerely,

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:

1. Proposed Amendment to 10 CFR Part 60

cc: The Honorable John J. Rhoades

IDENTICAL LETTERS SENT TO REPRESENTATIVE SHARP AND SENATOR LIEBERMAN

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*Editor concurred on rulemaking package containing letters

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