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(59FR 4868)

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March 8, 1994

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
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BRANCH

Secretary, U.S Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Washington, DC 20555
ATTN: Docketing and Service Branch

RE: Draft Cleanup Standard for DOE Sites

At a recent public meeting in Richland, Washington, it was revealed that the NRC and EPA are considering the imposition of very stringent cleanup standards that would affect DOE sites. The small magnitude of these proposed standards, 15 mrem total effective dose equivalent (TEDE) and 3 mrem ALARA, will ensure a grossly expensive cleanup bill, as well as a guarantee of never-ending radiological control of land that poses no greater radiological risk than the national geographical variability of doses from natural background.

The added radiological protection for the U.S. public by spending billions to clean the DOE sites to the proposed standards will be negligible, while the detriment of disregarding more worthwhile missions will be substantial. The tax payers' dollars would be much better utilized in areas that provide an actual benefit.

I strongly agree with the limits proposed by the Health Physics Society. These values, 25 mrem TEDE and 5 mrem ALARA, are much more attainable, as well as more practical from a cost/benefit standpoint.

Sincerely,

Jackson R. Ellis
Jackson R. Ellis

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