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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

September 27, 1990

Kenneth Carr
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Carr:

I understand that the uranium industry in the West has requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission review regulations regarding the on-site disposal of wastes generated by in-situ uranium production facilities. I am writing to request that you consider the industry's request to permit the safe disposal of on-site waste.

Back in 1980, when it appeared that a robust uranium industry would generate a significant amount of waste, the NRC implemented an environmental impact statement restricting the growth of small waste disposal sites. However, the uranium industry has not lived up to the expectations of a decade ago, and for the foreseeable future, the NRC will not be faced with the proliferation of waste from numerous conventional mining operations. As you know, the regulations do allow some flexibility for on-site disposal depending on certain factors, such as the nature of the waste and the cost and impacts of transport. Considering that there are limited waste disposal options available to the few in-situ mines operating in the Rocky Mountain region, I urge the NRC to allow for the flexibility already built into the regulations, and permit in-situ operations to dispose of wastes on-site in a safe and manageable manner.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Wallop
Malcolm Wallop
United States Senator

MW:mhc

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SYSTEM
DOCUMENT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

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1. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT(S) Ltr to Malcolm Wallop
2. TYPE OF DOCUMENT Correspondence Hearings (Qs/As)
3. DOCUMENT CONTROL Sensitive (NRC Only) Non-Sensitive
4. CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE and SUBCOMMITTEES (if applicable)

_____ Congressional Committee
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5. SUBJECT CODES

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- (b) _____
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6. SOURCE OF DOCUMENTS

- (a) _____ 5520 (document name _____)
- (b) Scan (c) Attachments
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8. COMMENTS

