Dear Dr. Reed,

I am writing asking you to urge the NRC <u>NOT to proceed with making rules to commercially</u> reprocess irradiated nuclear fuel.

To me and millions of others, reprocessing spent nuclear fuel is <u>unconscionable</u> because it threatens our environment and public health by dispersing high-level, radio-active waste for at least thousands of years. In fact, reprocessing makes worse the waste problem we already have.

Moreover and foremost, reprocessing irradiated nuclear fuel would threaten the spreading of nuclear weapons and the materials to make them. This would be not only irresponsible, but criminal. We need to be planning how to make the world safer for children, not even more dangerous.

I and others feel that storing spent nuclear waste In dry casks surrounded by earthen berms at or near the locations where the waste has been produced where it can be observed and maintained, is a far more responsible course to take, while an in-earnest scientific search is made for one or more permanent nuclear waste locations to be determined. We do not want the high-level wastes to be transported across our country's highways and railways to interim storage areas, nor do we want the wastes to be reprocessed for the reasons stated above.

This is a matter of protecting our environment, not helping the nuclear industry and weapons corporations to become wealthier.

Sincerely,

Nancy Rice Randolph Center, VT



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