

From: Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety <ccns@nuclearactive.org>
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Subject: [External_Sender] CCNS Comments - NRC Docket ID NRC-2020-0065

Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety

P. O. Box 31147

Santa Fe, NM. 87594-1147

nuclearactive.org

October 21, 2020

Secretary

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, DC 20555-0001

Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff

Re: Comments on Docket ID NRC-2020-0065

Dear NRC Secretary:

Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety (CCNS) opposes the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Very Low Level Waste (VLLW) proposal to allow nuclear power waste to be disposed of in regular municipal trash landfills, hazardous waste sites, or unregulated and unlicensed “places.”

CCNS is a Santa Fe, New Mexico non-governmental organization that formed in 1988 to address community concerns about the proposed transportation of radioactive (transuranic) and hazardous waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant through Santa Fe on St. Francis Drive. Our mission is to *protect all living beings and the environment from the effects of radioactive and other hazardous materials now and in the future.*

To make nuclear power, huge amounts of soil, concrete, equipment, plastic, components and more were made radioactive--some very long lasting. Under the NRC's unacceptable proposal those radioactive materials could be destined for our community's trash landfill.

CCNS respectfully requests NRC to withdraw its proposal. Now is not the time – during the COVID-19 global pandemic – for NRC to push its Very Low Level Waste proposal forward. It is irresponsible and unconscionable, which could result in reckless endangerment of individuals and communities located around the proposed disposal facilities.

There is no safe level of radioactivity. The NRC claims only very "low levels" of radioactive waste will be disposed of with regular trash. The levels NRC proposes is actually higher than for licensed dumps. At the proposed level, 1 in every 500 people will develop cancer if exposed over their lifetimes.

Please withdraw the NRC proposal. Now is not the time to impose a reckless proposal on the American people during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Sincerely,

Joni Arends, Co-founder and Executive Director
Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety (CCNS)
P. O. Box 31147
Santa Fe, NM 87594-1147
(505) 986-1973
www.nuclearactive.org

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