

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

ADD: Ed Miller, Allen Fetter,  
Mary Neely  
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**Docket:** NRC-2021-0137

Systematic Assessment for how the NRC Addresses Environmental Justice in its Programs, Policies, and Activities

**Comment On:** NRC-2021-0137-0001

Systematic Assessment for How the NRC Addresses Environmental Justice in Its Programs, Policies, and Activities

**Document:** NRC-2021-0137-DRAFT-2369

Comment on FR Doc # 2021-14673

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## Submitter Information

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**Organization:** CleanEarth4Kids.org

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## General Comment

The NRC has a long history of secrecy and a lack of public participation in decisions about nuclear power. Rules, processes and procedures were created and run for their own convenience and that of the businesses who profited from the programs.

A prime example is the mining of uranium across the Navajo Nation. More than 4 million tons of ore was taken and then the mines and mill tailing sites were shut down without remediation. These highly toxic sites poisoned the soil and contaminated the water, causing ongoing sickness and disease among tribal members. This exploitation of tribal resources and land is a form of colonialism. Any benefits from the nuclear programs were not shared with those who bore the burdens.

The siting of nuclear power plants, uranium mining, waste disposal and transportation routes have disproportionately hurt minority and low-income communities, damage that is ongoing.

The NRC decision making process must identify and address any and all negative human health and environmental impacts, especially on minority and low-income populations, as part of the NRC's commitment to environmental justice.

A permanent advisory board made up of community and environmental advocates is necessary to provide feedback and guidance to NRC licensing and administration processes. A number of factors must always be evaluated including air quality, water use, and ecosystem impacts along with health and socioeconomic issues to ensure risks and benefits are considered and are equally shared.

Those potentially affected by all aspects of the nuclear power lifecycle must be involved in the process of risk assessment, risk management and the final decision process. It is only just that those bearing the risk and environmental burdens have a part in making decisions on nuclear power.

There must always be a fair and equitable effort to engage local communities during all NRC processes to ensure accountability and ethical responsibility.

We call on the NRC to take strong and immediate action to prioritize the protection of communities and to remediate the past and ongoing damage from nuclear power.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne M. Hume  
S@CleanEarth4Kids.org  
(760) 650-2166  
CleanEarth4Kids.org

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## **Attachments**

NRDC Comment Env Justice Oct 29 2021



Oct 29, 2021

Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

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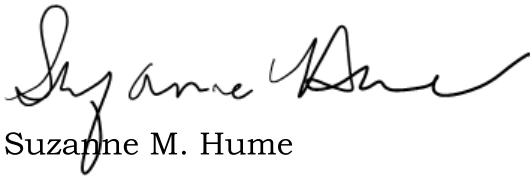
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Suzanne Hume". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Suzanne" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Hume".

Suzanne M. Hume

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(760) 650-2166

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Informational Link:

[Emerging Environmental Justice Issues in Nuclear Power and Radioactive Contamination \(asu.edu\)](#)