



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 24, 2022

Mr. Kevin
c/o Mountain Creek Middle School, 9th Grade
5325 W. Bingham Rim Road
South Jordan, UT 84009

Dear Kevin:

Thank you for your November 2021 letter in which you expressed your concerns regarding the safety of radioactive materials and nuclear waste. As spokesman for Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Christopher T. Hanson, I am responding on his behalf.

I applaud your emphasis on safety. It is our mission to ensure that nuclear materials are used safely and securely for society to reap the benefits of existing and developing nuclear technology. Electric power generated from U.S. nuclear power plants is the most obvious benefit, accounting for nearly 20 percent of the electricity that lights our homes, powers our computers, and charge electric vehicles. In medicine, thousands of procedures are performed annually in the United States to diagnose and treat various cancers and other diseases. Radioactive materials in industry also help ensure our roads, buildings, foods, and blood supplies are safe.

Employees at the NRC have devoted their professional lives to address the safety and security associated with the concerns expressed in your letter. They are educated and experienced in a wide variety of career disciplines. We employ nuclear engineers, of course, but also mechanical and structural engineers, health physicists, meteorologists, seismologists, environmental scientists, attorneys and many more. Perhaps one day, once you have embarked on your career path, you might join this effort – maybe even at the NRC.

Thanks again for your letter. Please keep asking the tough questions. Our country will be better for it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David A. Castelveter".

David A. Castelveter, Director
Office of Public Affairs