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170 Good Counsel Drive
Mankato, MN 56001-3138
December 13, 1999

Chairman Richard Meserve
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Meserve:

We are horrified and angry to learn that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is even considering legalizing the release of Low-level Radioactive Waste into the market place. **WE RESPECTFULLY DEMAND THAT ALL RADIOACTIVE WASTE BE CONTAINED, NOT RELEASED INTO CONSUMER ITEMS OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER!**

We remind you that it is your responsibility to **PROTECT** the public now and for the future by **PREVENTING** the **DISSEMINATION** of radioactive waste.

The fact that there is already natural background radiation does **NOT** justify adding to that radiation! The fact that some waste has already been released does **NOT** justify releasing more! Or that some other countries may by releasing radioactive waste into the marketplace does **NOT** justify our doing it! The high cost of monitoring and protecting radioactive waste does **NOT** justify taking the terrible risk of unnecessary and avoidable exposure of countless innocent people and animals, for that matter, to additional low-level radiation! **BRIEFLY, we do NOT want ANY radioactive waste released under commercial use under any circumstances.**

We also want to say that we think it is essential that the comment period be extended. Far too many people have not heard of these plans by the NRC and to have part of the comment period during the busy pre-Christmas season makes it even worse. We think this needs to be openly discussed and that we should be allowed several months, at a minimum!

Thank you for carefully listening to our requests.

Sincerely,

Gladya Schmitz, SSND
Ethel Dennis, SSND
M. Celeste Slovka, SSND
M. Alexandra Franke, SSND
P. Muriel Johnson, SSND
S. M. Lucretia Schmidt, SSND
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