

# Uranium Enrichment Project

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DOCKETED  
USNRC

14 December 1999  
DEC 17 P3:08

Mr. Richard Meserve  
NRC Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555  
Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

OFFICE  
OF  
ADJUDICATION

DOCKET NUMBER  
PROPOSED RULE **PR 20**  
(64FR35090)

Dear Chairman Meserve:

I am writing on behalf of the Uranium Enrichment Project to express our grave concern with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's proposal to recycle radioactive materials for release to the public and the environment. The use of recycled radioactive materials in consumer products poses unnecessary, avoidable, involuntary, and uninformed risks to the public. In the case of recycled metals, no standards for the release of contaminated metals currently exist, the public will have no knowledge of which products are made from contaminated metals, and the technology for cleaning contaminated metals has not been proven to work on a large scale. In addition, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), the consulting firm hired by the NRC to prepare the rule-making report, has a clear conflict of interest resulting from contracts with BNFL, the company in charge of recycling the contaminated metal.

Consequently, we would like to call on the NRC to prohibit the release of radioactive materials into commercial markets and the environment and to extend the comment period to give the public adequate time to review the proposal.

*Matthew Patterson*  
Matthew Patterson

*Mary B. Davis*  
Mary Byrd Davis

Uranium Enrichment Project is a project of Earth Island Institute's Yggdrasil Institute.

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