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To: OWFN\_DO.owf5\_po(SECY)  
Date: Wed, Dec 22, 1999 9:37 AM  
Subject: Radioactive Scrap

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Mr. Meserve,

The NRC's plan to release contaminated radioactive scrap metal into the recycling mainstream is a bad one on many fronts. Beyond the obvious public fears(founded or otherwise) there is a real threat as sited by your own study of 108,000 deaths that will be caused by this material being recycled in to everyday products that will find there way into almost every household in the U.S.. Combine this with all other cancer inducing elements that we are exposed to(background radiation, x-rays, airline travel, radon and a host of others) you are apparantly just contributing to an already bad situation. I'm sure that this would be a very cost effective if not profitable way for you to dispose of this material but then again, I'm sure you are not counting on it being one of your children or grandchildren that will suffer the ill effects of this short sighted solution. It is fairly obvious that some people are more genetically disposed to cancer and at this point in time it is not easy to identify those most at risk and if it were your proposal would make it impossible(short of owning a geiger counter) to know when these potentially harmful products were being brought into one's home. The fact that the origin of the cancer is untraceable for the most part would also relieve you of any responsibility in the matter.

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I believe that if this is the best idea that the western world can offer for the situation that we have created for ourselves then we either need better scientist or better administrators who might happen to think that one of those 108,000 people might be them or someone they love.

Danny Hickey

PDR PR 20 64FR35090

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