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From: Chris Trepal <ctrepal@earthdaycoalition.org>
To: OWFN_DO.owf5_po(SECY)
Date: Wed, Dec 22, 1999 2:09 PM
Subject: scoping of NRC proposed rule for RADIOACTIVE "RELEASE" and "RECYCLING" 64 FR 35090, 6/30/99

DOCKETED
USNRC

DEC 23 1999 8:46

re: scoping of NRC proposed rule for RADIOACTIVE "RELEASE" and "RECYCLING" into the marketplace, regular landfills, incinerators 64 FR 35090, 6/30/99

OJ
ADJUD

ATTN: NRC Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff

I am writing to strongly urge the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to isolate all radioactive wastes and materials, and anything they contaminate, no matter what the level of contamination. Nuclear weapon and nuclear power wastes must be isolated from people and the biosphere. We strongly object to the proposal to send radioactive wastes to landfills, incinerators or into the recycling loop in the US or abroad.

DOCKET NUMBER
PROPOSED RULE PR 20
(64FR35090)

Ohio passed a bill a number of years ago to respond to the NRC's below regulatory concern proposal. We still do not want nuclear power and weapons wastes released, cleared, deregulated, exempted, generally licensed, designated de minimis, unimportant, trivial" or called -- BRC-below regulatory concern.

We want the NRC to track and recapture the already released radioactive wastes in our environment. Earth Day Coalition, neighborhood residents and elected officials worked for over a decade to help remediate a SDMP site in Newburgh Heights, Ohio. The presence of depleted uranium from an industrial processes was, and still is, of great concern to our communities. Even wastes from our sewage treatment plant were contaminated with cobalt 60, demonstrating that de minimus releases can re-concentrate (due to incineration) and be of great community concern. We feel the NRC has not done an adequate job in protecting our health and quality of life in our community. The NRC must more efficiently identify, track and recapture radioactive wastes.

We take great objection to the idea of acceptable risk associated with the release of contaminated materials into the marketplace. It is the NRC's duty to protect the public, and prevent avoidable involuntary and uniformed risks. There is no way to justify releasing contaminated materials and thereby putting workers and others who handle consumer recycled products at risk.

Finally, I request that the NRC extend the comment period for at least six more months to adequately give members of the public and others who are most likely impacted a chance to comment.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this most important issue.

Chris Trepal, Executive Director
 Earth Day Coalition

PDR PR 20 64FR 35090

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"Neighbors working together to improve the health, quality of life
and environment of the Greater Cleveland Community"

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Please visit our website at: <http://www.earthdaycoalition.org>

Mark your calendars:
* EARTHfest 2000 - Saturday, April 22, 9 am - 5pm at Cleveland
Metroparks Zoo. FREE admission to all EARTHfest 2000 activities and
the Zoo grounds.
* Walk or Bike for the Earth 2000 - From Cleveland Public Square to
EARTHfest. Kick-off 8 am.