PROPOSED RULE 1 20 (64FR 35090)

December 22, 1999

'99 DEC 27 P5:49

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

Dear Sir:

Say what? Sell radioactive metals to the scrap metal industry? Recycle contaminated plastics, soils, concrete, etc?

Please tell me why I am carefully draped with a lead apron for a dental X-ray and yet the NRC and the DOE want to make it possible for radioactive materials to pass everywhere into my environment.

Please explain why there has been no extensive public information about this and why today is the deadline for discussion, in the midst of the holiday season when all of us Americans are distracted.

My six-year-old son is downstairs gazing at a sugarplum tree created with gumdrops and dreaming of Santa Claus. I'd like to go bake some cookies with him. But first, I am faxing you this letter to say: Stop this insane plan, or at the very least allow time for further discussion and debate. What kind of a world are you planning to leave the next generation ... and the next ... and the next?

Apparently, you've already had some negative feedback. The Steel Manufacturers Association has already expressed opposition to this plan. Perhaps the SMA has heeded the words of Dr. Karl Morgan, the father of radiological health physics who said, "There is no safe level of exposure and there is no dose of radiation so low that the risk of malignancy is zero."

Please have the courage to do what is right, not what is easy, expedient, etc. Please have the courage to allow open and fair debate.

Please respond to this letter.

Sincerely,

Muriel A. Knope

4989 Vernon Oaks Drive Atlanta, GA 30338