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From: Rosalie Bertell <IICPH@compuserve.com>
To: "Secretary, NRC" <SECY@nrc.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 22, 1999 8:26 PM
Subject: Radioactive Waste in Households

'99 DEC 27 A9:26

Rule Making Committee

Dear Sir,

I understand that you are considering releasing low level radioactive waste for use in household items. In view of the fact that no research on the long term health effects of exposure to low level radiation has ever been conducted, this is an unacceptable experiment with humans. You basically have no data to support such a policy. The victims of this flawed policy are most likely to be the children who lack a developed immune system and who will be most vulnerable to the effects of radiation. This vulnerability of children has been well documented in the Chernobyl disaster. Since NRC regulations have been based on cancer death as the biological endpoint, they are singularly inappropriate for protection against depressed immune system in children!

I hope that will rule against such an ill conceived policy! I am ashamed of the HPS for not opposing this.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rosalie Bertell

Plenary Member of the Health Physics Society

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