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To: OWFN_DO.owf5_po(AVC)
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Subject: radioactive waste recycling

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GENERAL

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

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Dear Chairman Meserve:

I am writing to call on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to isolate radioactive wastes and materials and anything they contaminate, no matter what level. The radioactive legacy of atomic energy and weapons production should be isolated from the public and the environment.

The NRC should also extend the comment period on releasing radioactive waste into commerce to at least September 2000. The period the public has been given is too short for such an important issue.

I do not want nuclear power and weapons wastes "released," "cleared," deregulated, exempted, generally licensed, designated "de minimis," "unimportant," "trivial" or BRC-below regulatory concern, or by any other creative, direct or deceptive means, allowed out of nuclear facilities and into the marketplace or the environment, at any level.

The current methods of releasing radioactive wastes from commercial licensees and weapons facilities must immediately cease. No future radioactive releases should be permitted and a full accounting and recapture of that which has already been released should commence.

Using radioactive wastes in consumer products poses unnecessary, avoidable, involuntary, uninformed risks. The consumers, the producers, the raw materials industries don't want these radioactive wastes or risks.

I fully support the complete opposition and "zero tolerance" policies of the metal and recycling industries, the management and the unions. I appreciate their efforts, not only in opposition to legalization of radioactive releases, but in their investment in detection equipment and literally holding the line against the radioactive threat to the public. They should not have to be our de-facto protectors. The NRC, DOE and EPA must act to prevent the dissemination of radioactive wastes into recycled materials and general commerce.

The United States should take the lead in preventing contamination of the international marketplace. We protect ourselves best by not facilitating international radioactive commerce.

In conclusion, I would like to ask the NRC to serve the interests of the public instead of the nuclear industry and:

#1 prohibit the release of radioactive materials into commerce, landfills and incinerators

#2 identify, track and recapture the radioactive waste that has already been released from nuclear power and weapons facilities by federal and

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state regulators

#3 give the public at least 8 more months to comment.

Sincerely,

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