

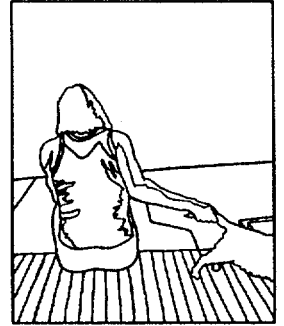
March 16, 2000

*Dear Chairman*  
*Meserve*

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SCOTT AINSLIE



CATTAIL MUSIC  
DURHAM, NC

Secretary Bill Richardson  
U. S. Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Richardson:

It has come to my attention that the DOE and NRC are working with the nuclear industry and other federal agencies to facilitate the recycling of radioactive material for use in selected consumer products.

As I am sure you are aware, the work of John Goffman and numerous other independent nuclear researchers clearly demonstrates that there is no safe level of exposure to radioactivity. Radiation induced health problems increase in direct proportion to cumulative exposure to radiation from all sources---from the smallest "background" levels through high-altitude exposure of airline workers and mountaineers to industrial and health care exposures.

The plans your agency are apparently preparing to allow to go forward will jeopardize the lives of tens of thousands of unsuspecting Americans. The government itself estimates that this program will kill or debilitate more than 90,000 people a year. In the case of use in children, where cell division proceeds at an accelerated rate, radiation induced mutations will develop into cancers, leukemia and other conditions at a rate much faster than the twenty to thirty year time frame for adults.

By allowing the use of these materials in zippers, cookware and eating utensils, computer batteries, eyeglasses, food containers, braces for teeth, clothing and construction materials along with numerous other items made of metal, you will needlessly endanger thousands of innocent lives.

In the interest of the public health disaster you are going to cause, please stop these plans immediately and prevent any such use of radioactive materials in the future.

Thank you for your attention and action on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Scott Ainslie

cc: Jesse Helms  
John Edwards  
Richard Meserve

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