

Hearing Docket

From: david [hendro54@yahoo.com]
 Sent: Monday, May 26, 2008 11:01 AM
 To: Hearing Docket
 Subject: EnergySolutions Import License Application IW023

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Utah and have lived here (in the Salt lake Valley) for over 20 years. I have my children living here and I have my grandchildren living here. I feel strongly on this issue and ask that you do NOT issue a permit to Energy Solutions to import any, not one ounce, of nuclear waste into this country. They will be dumping this toxic and deadly waste in the part of the country that my family and posterity will want to live in.

I am an engineer. One of the fundamental lessons learned in engineering is that everything, yes EVERYTHING, is in a state of decay. The nuclear waste itself is decaying at a very, very slow rate, yet the containers that this nuclear waste will be stored in is decaying at a much, much faster rate. It takes no genius to see that this is true. Very few things last more than 100 years, even fewer than 200 years. Most of everything that was manufactured in the year of my birth no longer exists.

So why, would anyone think that this nuclear waste, which decays very slowly and over thousands and thousands of years, would not be toxic, when the shells (containers) they are stored in have long since rusted and lost their ability to contain this deadly stew. No good engineer can guarantee this, and if one does, you know you are being lied to.

If Italy wants to rid itself of this waste, then let them hire US engineers to go over to Italy and help them build a nuclear treatment plant where they can properly treat their own waste and store it in their own country. Let the Italian people put their own children and children's children at risk. But please do NOT put my and millions of other Americans posterity in harms way. It just is not worth it.

As an engineer, who understands the fundamentals of material science, I tell you that the potential of a disaster is huge. Energy Solutions may try to minimize this danger, but they are in the business of making money, here and now, without consideration of my or your future.

In addition, consider that Utah is a huge earthquake zone. Yes, there is desert, but a large number of faults run all across this area. Scientists have been trying to warn us that an earthquake as large as the one that recently hit China will occur. They say it is not a matter of IF; it is a matter of when. Utah's state capitol building just went through a huge reconstruction effort at huge expense to the Utah taxpayer to make the building more earthquake proof.

This shows that the state of Utah is rightly concerned about earthquakes. I have felt a number of earthquakes since moving here and there was a fair earthquake not far away centered in Wells, NV.

Can Energy Solutions guarantee that their containers can withstand an earthquake, the magnitude of the ones predicted? They cannot. The containers may be able to hold up against a lot of pressure, but they cannot guarantee. Hairline crystalline fractures inherent in all materials (especially metal) make that impossible to guarantee. They may say it is unlikely, but they cannot make it an honest guarantee.

Please consider this carefully. My and my posterity's future as well as millions of others will be in your hand. I ask you to deny Energy Solutions request.

Thank you.

David Hendrickson
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