WCOutreachCEm Resource

From: Laurence Kirby [vanini@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, February 25, 2012 10:40 AM

To: WCOutreach Resource

Subject: Comment on Long-Term Waste Confidence Update

To the NRC:

This is a comment on the "Long-Term Waste Confidence Update" draft report.

It is absurd on the face of it to express confidence in the safety of current nuclear waste arrangements for the long period of 120 years, with all the historical uncertainties and technological developments of more than a century, even if one were to suppose that the indoor pools and outdoor casks were safe now.

But it is clear that the nuclear waste is unsafe now. The Fukushima disaster has shown that pools can drain or boil resulting in the release of large amonts of radioactivity. Numerous tests -- and several accidents and nearmisses -- have demonstrated that casks are vulnerable to breakage through accident or attack.

Further, the health and mortality effects of radioactive leakage are so severe that human error or materials failure -- which can never be ruled out -- could have catastrophic results, and it's irresponsible or disingenuous to express "confidence" in any disposition of this dangerous waste, let alone the current cobbled-together system.

The only repsonsible course is to require on-site hardened storage and immediately institute a policy that stops the production of further nuclear waste.

Thank you,

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