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becky.brown@na.blomerieux.com on 10/02/2001 01:49:31 PM



To: YMP_SR@YMP.gov
cc:

Subject: Nuclear Waste Shipments

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

Attention: Ms. Carol Hanlon
U.S. Dept. of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site
Characterization Office M/S #025
P.O. Box 30307
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

I am writing to urge the U.S. Department of Energy NOT to ship radioactive waste via interstate highways or rail through the metropolitan St. Louis region for storage at the Yucca Mountain, NV site. I have read that the Union Pacific rail lines that run through the suburb of Webster Groves, MO are being considered and I do not consider this to be a safe route for such dangerous materials. Recently in May 2001, a freight train derailed in Webster Groves and spilled the contents of 13 coal cars onto Lockwood Avenue which is a prime family neighborhood. An accident involving nuclear waste would be far more serious to the families living in such neighborhoods. An accident on one of our busy interstates would also be highly dangerous to the St. Louis population. The danger to human health and the cost to clean up such accidents indicate that this plan should not be allowed to move forward.

Besides the potential for such accidents, we also must keep in mind that acts of terrorism do occur. Our nation's attack on Sept. 11 further reinforces this point.

If our country continues its policies for development of nuclear energy, I recommend that the waste generated be kept in that same place. There is simply too much risk associated with movement of radioactive materials not only to Yucca Mountain, but anywhere else in our country. I urge the U.S. Department of Energy to continue to work on development of alternative, non-radioactive energy sources for the U.S.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my opinion and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Becky Brown
1364 N. Berry Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63122-1921