Good evening DOE,

I’m writing in regards to the projected open air repositories that are being discussed to hold the nations nuclear waste. I strongly oppose this idea for many reasons, the obvious being the dangers involved in storing high level radioactive waste in open-air dumps. This sort of practice has been done in the early history of the US, and with great consequence. Dumps in the NE US have caused many health and environmental implications, as well as in St. Louis, and the Hanford site. I would like to add that much of the Hanford site is contained underground, but still the tanks leak into waterways, polluting the water for growing families. Spinal bifida is on the rise in those areas surrounding downstream from Hanford. These open air dumps will vaporize and mix with atmospheric condensation, accumulating radionuclides into our air, wind, and rain. These particles then are not only gamma, but now alpha, being able to be inhaled, absorbed by humidity, and stored within the human body. To bring such large amounts of radioactive waste to one place poses many risks, as bioaccumulation of radiation intensifies. People downwind of this site will surely be rained upon, (even as far as the Atlantic coast) with radionuclides falling into the waterways, soil, and upon growing food. There is no escaping these dangerous particles, therefore, I think it unwise to have an open-air repository for the accumulation of the nations waste in one place. The original home of the waste is already contaminated, and therefore perhaps best left there until an adequate safe storage site has been decided upon. Open-air nuclear pools are very dangerous and it would be unwise to place all the waste in one place. Transporting the waste is another giant risk, with unexpected weather, accidents, and people with heart problems which may end up driving side by side with the high level waste, emitting powerful dose of radiation at 70 miles an hour! Heart attacks will likely happen. Everyone is at risk here, along every highway or railroad of the designated routes. Myself a Texan, I strongly oppose this idea, and urge you to reconsider this terrible plan. Not only are these radionuclides harmful cell-mutating, cancer causing emissions, but they do so for 157 million years. Open air repositories are a death-wish.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kim Huey
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