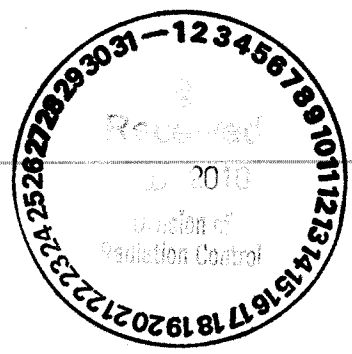


Comm. 025

To:  
From: franklin@biology.utah.edu  
Subject: DU Waste RCB public hearing 1/26/10  
Cc:  
Bcc:  
X-Attachments:



January 26, 2010

>  
>Utah Department of Environmental Quality  
>Division of Radiation Control  
>Airport East Business Building, Rm 212  
>168 North 1950 West  
>Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4850

>  
>Dear Utah Division of Radiation Control,

>  
> Depleted uranium ("DU") is the 'waste' from enrichment of Uranium  
>235. U235 is enriched for producing electricity in nuclear energy  
>plants --- and for nuclear weapons. The amount of DU waste is thus a  
>measure of the amount of U235 enrichment proceeding in the United  
>States. Judging from existing and projected DU amounts, a great deal  
>of U235 enrichment is anticipated. On what basis???

>  
> DU waste is radioactive as delivered to Utah, and will become more  
>radioactive over time in storage. It is also toxic, and has been  
>connected to 'Gulf War syndrome'. It is shipped to Utah in casks and  
>buried as such. I have heard no information about the lifetime of  
>these casks. Doubtless that will depend upon conditions at the  
>deposition site, which has been known to become flooded with salt  
>water within historic time.

>  
> Radioactivity at any level is not healthful for biological systems.  
>Increased rates of cancer in humans of all ages is attributed, in  
>part, to radioactivity. Uranium has proved to be a cancer generator  
>at all stages of its life cycle: mining, enrichment, nuclear plants,  
>nuclear waste---and nuclear explosions.

>  
> The U.S. NRC classified DU as low level, Class A. But they now admit  
>that DU is a special material requiring further study. A few years of  
>more study. Perhaps enough time to allow the transfer of the whole  
>pile DU waste pile to be transferred to Utah BEFORE their conclusions  
>are reached.

>  
> I am grateful that the Utah Radiation Control Board has understood  
>the need for Utah to look at this scenario and understand that it is  
>the RCB which must impose its own conditions for the receipt of DU.  
>The Energy Solutions waste site at Clive needs careful reconsideration  
>as a repository for DU.

>  
> It is simple common sense to understand the hazards of DU BEFORE it  
>is shipped, BEFORE it is received --- and even BEFORE it is produced.

>Sincerely,

>  
> *Naomi Franklin*

>Naomi Franklin  
>1411 Utah St. #4  
>Salt Lake City, UT 84104  
>