

Comm-035

From: kira kilmer <chilipepper@xmission.com>
To: <dfinerfrock@utah.gov>
Date: 1/26/2010 9:12 PM
Subject: depleted uranium shipments to Utah

My comments address responsibility of policy makers to anticipate all aspects of your decisions regarding the importation of uranium materials..

1. Energy Solutions may not last as long as the problems they create.
Lehman Brothers and Enron would not have anticipated their own demise.
The responsibility for mitigation of problems could fall to Utah,

or to all taxpaying US citizens
if Superfund Clean-up funds are necessary--do we want bigger or
smaller government?

Is it fair to gloss over problems and expect taxpayers to bail you
out?

Would "clean-up" even be possible? What if an aquifer were
contaminated?

2. Energy Solutions is not going to advertise their own shortcomings
just as the tobacco industry told us cigarettes tasted good and were either masculine
or sophisticated

but did not admit the cigarettes were addictive and that use
exposed smokers to carcinogens

3. Storage is only one of several concerns. What about
transportation? Carrying containers across
the country exposes all those along the route to potential
contamination, either
by intentional spilling or accidental hazard. In Salt Lake the
train route goes
through the heart of the city. Can you afford an accident or
terrorist incident in our
metropolitan center? Would you want an incident in any other city
or rural farmland?

4. What about worker exposure to toxic materials? The Energy
Solutions executives will sit at their
desks, but the so called jobs they create may come with the
inherent risk of deadly exposure
should any containers fail or should there be workplace errors in
handling the containers.

5. And finally, should not you, the legislature, the governor and all
of us as the society who support you, be thinking
of the final results. To meet our growing energy needs, should we
agree to working with poisons or look
to sources that are sustainable and non-toxic? Do we want mercury
in our water? Petroleum, lead and arsenic
in our air, uranium in our dust and possibly in our water, or
should we push ahead with solar, wind, geothermal
energy sources, and conservation, while our research teams try to
solve the known negative consequences of
nuclear materials and coal.

We ask the coca growers in Colombia to give up a chance for income,
we ask the opium growers in Afghanistan
to grow grain at much lower profits, surely we can ask ourselves:
are a few jobs worth the risk of accident, risks to
employee and citizen health and potential damage to our environment?

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