The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is holding public meetings to collect comments on a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (Draft GEIS--see link below) on the extended storage of highly radioactive irradiated fuel rods currently stored at nuclear power reactor sites in Washington DC, and 10 other cities between October 1 and November 14, 2013.

This file is specific to NRC's public meeting on **Thursday, October 24 in Chicago**-**Oak Brook, Illinois** [Chicago Marriott Oak Brook](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/chiob-chicago-marriott-oak-brook/) 1401 West 22nd Street Oak Brook, IL 60523 Link to google map: **http://tinyurl.com/nrcOct24**

NRC will hold an "Open House" at 6 pm, and the meeting 7--10 pm (local time). If you are planning your own events, be sure to insert the times you want people to arrive.

We encourage local groups to use their own materials -- these draft organizing documents are offered simply as a starting point or aid. Edit / insert your own info + quotes / revise / reject freely!

This WORD file contains the following DRAFT documents for the CHICAGO meeting:

* Media Advisory
* Outreach email to your allied groups
* Outreach email to members/ individuals
* Press release
* Flyer

We will be posting separately:

* Talking points
* Several different drafts of short comments for oral presentation
* JPG for possible paid advertisement

If there are other document drafts that would be helpful for you, please contact Mary Olson, NIRS -- maryo@nirs.org or 828-252-8409 (cell 828-242-5621).

The Waste Confidence Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS) is publicly available at <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1322/ML13224A106.pdf>

Please scroll down to Draft Document 1

**DRAFT Document 1 -- Media Advisory** (put out about 2 weeks prior to the meeting -- be sure you contact "Day Books" for your area and send it to the Day Books again 48 hours in advance."

[Letterhead or list of organizations working together]

Date

For Immediate Post

Contact: [include one or more names, phone and email]

**Media Advisory**

Chicago to have Major Role in U.S. High-Level Radioactive Waste Regulation

Thursday October 24 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to Hear Public

**What:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has produced a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for the first time on the extended storage of highly radioactive irradiated fuel rods currently stored at nuclear power reactor sites. The NRC is seeking public comment on the document, and will hold 2 meetings in the Washington DC area and 10 field meetings outside of DC, including [City name]. [City name] is the only location in [region].

**When:** Thursday October 24, 6 pm Open House; Meeting 7--10 pm [change time if you have your own plan]

**Where:** [Chicago Marriott Oak Brook](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/chiob-chicago-marriott-oak-brook/) 1401 West 22nd Street Oak Brook, IL 60523

Link to google map: **http://tinyurl.com/nrcOct24**

**Who:** Any member of the public, their advocates and representatives [list any VIP or organizations planning to comment] may comment. Both oral and written comments will be accepted.

**Why:** A federal court ordered the NRC to study the impact of storing high-level radioactive waste ("spent" fuel rods) at reactor sites, including a look specifically at dangers from fuel pools such as those seen at the Fukushima Daiichi Japanese nuclear disaster site. Prior to that the NRC simply asserted that the storage of the waste was no problem, would have no impact and that since federal law mandates a different federal agency, the Department of Energy, to take this most concentrated of all the types of radioactive waste, an impact statement was not needed. The federal court order is historic since it additionally removed the NRC's authority to license expanded production of the waste (new nuclear power reactors, or license renewals). The public is invited to comment on the Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement, particularly any site-specific aspects of waste storage since the document is intended to address every reactor site in the United States, past, present and future.

#30#

(please scroll down to next document)

**Draft Document #2 --** Draft email / letter outreach to other groups

Email Subject Line: (your choice)

Join us--help Mobilize your members to Speak out on Radioactive Waste

Will You Help Bring People to Speak Out on Radioactive Waste?

OR: Join us to expose the Radioactive Waste Con Game: help bring 200 to speak out

OR: Help your members speak out for the only real solution to radioactive waste

OR: Radwaste Storage: Bring Your Network to the Table; NRC--will Hear Public

OR?

[Letterhead or List of Groups working together--or put at bottom]

Invitation to Allied organizations:

We have an unprecedented opportunity to speak out on high-level radioactive waste regulations. Join us in bringing those who care about a sustainable future to stand together for a new radioactive waste policy: no more! In addition we must speak for a safer and saner waste storage policy for what is already there.

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is holding a meeting for public comment on a new Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement on the generation and storage of highly radioactive waste on Thursday October 24, 2013 in the Chicago area at [Chicago Marriott Oak Brook](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/chiob-chicago-marriott-oak-brook/) 1401 West 22nd Street Oak Brook, IL 60523 Link to google map: **http://tinyurl.com/nrcOct24**

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The NRC has been forced by a federal court to update its "Waste Confidence" rule, which simply assumed, without technical basis, that high-level radioactive waste would always be stored safely. Up to now the NRC relied on federal law that states that this waste is the responsibility of a different federal agency (the Department of Energy) which has, so far, failed. We see this as a radioactive waste "Con" game that the federal regulators have been playing for decades. It is time for NRC to come clean; time for the USA to adopt a nuclear-free carbon-free energy policy and time for us to be heard calling for a healthy future for our children and their children.

A goal set by grassroots activists working together nationwide is to get 200 or more participants to each of the twelve meetings that NRC will hold. Will you help?

We have support from Sierra Club, Nuclear Information and Resource Service and Beyond Nuclear who have produced draft documents for media work, recruitment and comments. [insert link to page where these are posted] In addition to packing the Hall, there is a national commitment to organize visible (non-disruptive) activity outside as well. There is **no** desire to obstruct the meetings, rather we intend to demonstrate the depth of our commitment to a nuclear-free future!

For more information [local contact]

For the NRC documents: <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1322/ML13224A106.pdf>

BACKGROUND: [short version, use this or substitute your own]

The most concentrated radioactive waste has been continuously produced by the nation's nuclear power reactors for decades. The irradiated, or "spent" fuel rods result when atoms inside them are split, releasing heat used to boil water to make steam and from that, electric power. This high-level waste has been piling up at reactor sites, usually in irradiated fuel pools that are holding many times more waste than their original design, and some in dry containers called casks. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission that approves the atomic reactor licenses has never looked at the environmental impacts of storing this waste. Now a federal judge has ordered that study. Even more exciting, without its “waste confidence” rule in place, the NRC was forced to place a moratorium on licensing or re-licensing any reactors until the issue is resolved.

The Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) is an initial document, and NRC is collecting public comments on it. <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1322/ML13224A106.pdf> Comments at the meeting can be spoken, or written and written comments can be offered in writing up to November 27, 2013. See page 4 of the GEIS at link above for options of how to submit written comments.

Draft comments and Talking Points are posted here [link to drafts]

It is vital that people come together to challenge the validity of the GEIS since it dismisses the clear and present danger of over-full fuel pools, a drain-down of which could release catastrophic levels of radioactivity. Meanwhile the waste in the pools will, someday, have to be put in dry containers anyway. NRC seems to believe that the cost for reactor owners is as important, or maybe even more important, than our health and safety.

Instead of having confidence in the NRC’s radioactive waste policies, we call it NRC's "Con" Game and we think it is time for it to end! Please help show that we care.

Contact [local contact] if you can attend this important public meeting and/or can help bring others to the meeting.

[scroll down to next draft document]

**Draft Document # 3 -- email to individuals**

/ newsletter item for outreach to individuals

Subject line: Invitation to Stand-Up, Speak-Out on Radioactive Waste--Once in an Atomic Age Opportunity

OR Other subject line.

Thursday October 24, Chicago -- 6 pm Open House; Meeting 7--10 pm [insert your time to show up if different]

[Chicago Marriott Oak Brook](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/chiob-chicago-marriott-oak-brook/) 1401 West 22nd Street Oak Brook, IL 60523 Link to google map: **http://tinyurl.com/nrcOct24**

If you don't live near Chicago, see below for info on regional travel support.

You are invited to speak out on radioactive waste regulation. About a year ago, a federal judge ordered the federal agency that regulates nuclear energy to look more closely at the environmental impact of storing the most radioactive waste ever generated--the irradiated or "spent" nuclear fuel. Now the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has drafted an environmental impact statement and is holding a meeting for public comments.

We are calling on anyone who cares about a sustainable future to turn-out to support a nuclear-free carbon-free future, not a new effort to sweep the radioactive waste problem under the carpet. We will have signs to hold outside, [list any other activities you are planning] and will also support anyone who wants to make a short oral comment.

Please join the groundswell to confront the "Con" that the federal regulator of nuclear energy has been running, making radioactive waste year after year with no place for it to go and even if it went, no way to "dispose" of it. This waste is building up at every nuclear power reactor in the US.

NRC has licensed the production of this waste for decades, now the agency has determined it is okay to keep making more, allowing it to be stored in over-full pools while dismissing melt-downs and fuel pool problems like Fukushima because the "probability" of such an event happening is supposedly so low. (See below for more background)

This is your chance to stand with others and say "no more."

Educational activities outside the meeting--visible statement of our goals for a nuclear-free and sustainable energy future are also in order! If you want to support that activity, please be in touch [local contact here]

TRAVEL: If you are coming from a distance contact: [insert local contact info]

[OR regional organizers, insert travel info here]

WHAT TO SAY to NRC: This is an opportunity for you to say whatever you are moved to say, or check out "draft comments" and "talking points posted here: [link to drafts]

BACKGROUND: [short version, use this--or substitute your own]

The most concentrated radioactive waste has been continuously produced by the nation's nuclear power reactors for decades. The irradiated, or "spent" fuel rods result when atoms inside them are split, releasing heat used to boil water to make steam and from that, electric power. This high-level waste has been piling up at reactor sites, usually in irradiated fuel pools that are holding many times more waste than the original design, and some in dry containers called casks. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that approves the atomic reactor licenses has never looked at the environmental impacts of storing this waste. Now a federal judge has ordered that study. Even more exciting, the judge removed the authority of the NRC to license any new reactors until the waste storage issues are resolved.

The Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) is an initial document, and NRC is collecting public comments on it. <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1322/ML13224A106.pdf> Comments at the meeting can be spoken, or written and written comments can be offered in writing up to November 27, 2013; page 4 of the GEIS gives options for how to submit written comments.

Draft comments and Talking Points are posted here [link to drafts]

It is vital that people come together to challenge the validity of the GEIS since it dismisses the clear and present danger of over-full fuel pools, a drain-down of which would release catastrophic levels of radioactivity merely on the basis of their probability calculations. Meanwhile the waste in the pools will, someday, have to be put in dry containers anyway. NRC seems to believe that the cost for reactor owners is as important, or maybe even more important than our health and safety.

Instead of having confidence in the NRC’s radioactive waste policies, we call it NRC's "Con" Game and we think it is time for it to end! Please help show that we care.

[repeat local contact info here]

[scroll down to next Draft document]

**Draft Document #4 Draft Press Release**

(this is for you to write your own story--include quotes from those who attend--might end up a short article in a smaller paper, and you can pass it out to the media who come to the meeting)

Groups that signed on to work together names at top

For Immediate Release

Date: [date of NRC meeting]

Contact: [ one or more name, phone and email]

Headline

[City, date] -- Narrative needs to be specific to what points were brought out by local groups; contain good pithy quotes from people who were there and conclude with a ringing endorsement of what we want.

I am thinking we need to wait to hear from the Legal Eagles on this... so check back to this website when we have more specific info--or feel entirely free to run with your own vision. We will post additional information by September 20.

#end#

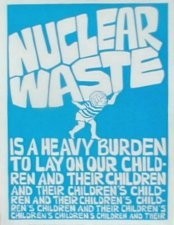
**Draft document # 5**

**--1/2 page FLYER for handing out at meetings**

set page margins for 1/2 inch on all sides and allow 1 inch between--makes 2 per page

You can play with font size too, but once you copy to a 1/2" margin document, you get space.

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**Once in an Atomic Age--**join and help create the groundswell standing together to say: "**STOP MAKING RADIOACTIVE WASTE!**" and Make sure the waste we have now is not leaking.

[Local contact]

We invite you to join us at a public meeting to be held by the federal regulator (NRC) to hear public comments:

Thursday October 24, 6--10 pm

[Chicago Marriott Oak Brook](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/chiob-chicago-marriott-oak-brook/) 1401 West 22nd Street Oak Brook, IL 60523 Link to google map: **http://tinyurl.com/nrcOct24**

[any travel or other details, such as a pre-meeting]

Why me? If you have been concerned about nuclear policy already, this is a watershed moment. A federal judge revoked the regulations the NRC relies on for its nuclear licensing authority. Kid you not--all new licenses and license extensions are on hold right now. Now is the time to agree with the judge--just saying "Don't worry, there will be solution for this worst waste soon" is not good enough.

If you are new to thinking about radioactive waste, this is an unparalleled opportunity to learn and make a difference!