

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

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November 9, 2011

Mr. Andrew Carrera
Division of Intergovernmental Liaison
and Rulemaking
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Re: RCPD-11-016 Draft Proposed Rule to Amend 10 CFR Part 61

Dear Mr. Carrera:

On behalf of the Executive Board of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD), I am presenting comments related to the Draft Proposed Rule to Amend 10 CFR Part 61 Site Specific Analyses for Demonstrating Compliance with Subpart C Performance Objectives. The CRCPD's comments are consistent with the NRC's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) comments contained in their letter to Chairman Jazko dated September 22, 2011.

Some sited states were initially concerned there would be a need to remediate existing waste disposal facilities due to proposed revised requirements for long-term site performance standards for unique waste streams (e.g., large volumes of depleted uranium). This concern was addressed through "grandfathering." However, the CRCPD is still concerned that it is difficult to assure performance objectives after 20,000 years. The CRCPD supports the ACRS position of a rational site specific approach regarding period of performance.

As the NRC is aware, changes to Part 61 may have an impact on state programs with current disposal sites. The CRCPD looks forward to providing additional comments should the Commission approve a proposed rule amending Part 61.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments to this draft proposed rule. If you have any questions about the comments or would like to discuss them further, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Alice Hamilton Rogers, P.E.

Chairperson