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STATEMENT TO BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION

January 8, 2011

First of all, I want to thank the Commission for agreeing to undivided attention to comments by the public on disposal of radioactive waste.

Was construction of nuclear power plants a basic mistake? At the time of construction, they were viewed as a cheap (?), clean, safe way of generating power for domestic use. The chemistry and danger of radioactivity were not widely known.

Southeastern United States has 19 nuclear power plants, with a total of 33 reactors. Hence the great interest by the public in how spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste will face disposal.

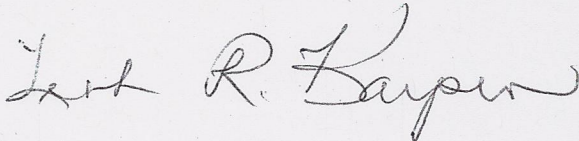
The first consideration is safety of the public. Therefore, transportation of waste should not be considered. Accidents do happen and could cause great contamination. There is NO safe level of radiation to humans. Therefore, radiation release to the public must be prevented.

Transportation through Western North Carolina is particularly undesirable--even hazardous--because of narrow, steep and winding roads. [Building more highways is not the answer.]

Nor does Western North Carolina want to store the radioactive waste. We would not consider that a desirable industry for our region--definitely undesirable and unwanted.

Leaving the waste in place seems to be one answer. Vitrification may be an option to reduce volume. No one facility could be safe enough, large enough, or convenient enough to contain all hazardous waste, present and future.

Another desirable move would be no further generation of radioactive waste. It is possible to change policies and to rely more on renewable sources of energy.



Signed:

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