

## Private ISF

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**From:** Susan Gateley <susan@silverwaters.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2017 3:29 PM  
**To:** PrivateISF  
**Subject:** public comments on private initiatives

Privatized interim nuclear waste storage proposal comments

This comes from a resident near the Great Atomic Lake Ontario home to 16 commercial reactors and associated waste plus two rad waste sites at Port Hope CAN and LOOW Lewiston NY.

1. What key factors should be considered to ensure that PIs, as part of the overall integrated nuclear waste management system, would provide a workable solution for interim storage of spent nuclear fuel and high-level waste?

Sorry this whole premise of making a profit off rad waste in interim storage is flawed. Kinda like the U.S. health Care System .History repeats itself and we've already forgotten the lessons of West Valley NY just upstream from Lake Ontario. That "private" for profit venture began just 40 years ago.

Let's just man up to it and do it. DOE will be hiring contractors and paying them our tax dollars anyway so let's eliminate the middle man and get started.

Remember Nuclear Fuels Service? The private for profit outfit that was going to 'recycle' waste back in the 1`970s at West Valley NY?

Haven't we been down this road before? Tax payers have shelled out 5 billion so far after NFS declared bankruptcy and bailed while the WV mess continues to leak

1000 gallons of kerosene laced with plutonium 'disappeared' before the tax payers got involved

a strontium 90 underground plume got well on its way to Buttermilk Creek

I heard that plutonium ended up behind a dam downstream from WV.

There's supposed to be 15 pounds of plutonium somewhere in the "low level" earth trenches section of West Valley that is NY state's responsibility

all of the above happened during the 'for profit ' phase.

WV was a private "for profit" effort to 'recycle' fuel from weapons facilities and commercial reactors.

As far as I can see, once NFS realized there was no profit they bailed. Let's just skip this step of allowing a private contractor to make money setting up and collecting the waste and then departing. We made it and we're responsible so please let's skip the let somebody make some profit off it step. One way or another DOE funded by tax payers is going to pay. Why put the middle man in there to skim off the top of the money pot?

DOE's track record ain't great but it's a helluva lot better than private industry. At least DOE contractors have stabilized the West Valley high level stuff thru vitrification. (There are still leaks and plumes underground to deal with though. Not to mention other longer term issues like site erosion).

The private contractor that worked here for a few years used the classic kitty litter approach. Bury it and forget it. Until such time (whenever that is) a solution to the stuff is found, it should be stored above ground and monitored and re containerized.

I honestly don't see a private for profit company being around to do that for more than a few decades. It's a stretch admittedly to see the Gov doing it. A big stretch. But private industry's track record is really really awful! Let's skip the profit making step. Save money.

Before the tax payers started getting involved at West Valley plutonium ended up behind a dam and radioisotopes associated with WV are thought to have ended up on the Niagara River bar (though some have claimed those Chinese bomb tests were at fault. Chinese bomb tests have been a kind of a running joke around some nuke plants whenever the monitors go off )

As for trucking or barging the stuff around the country it's hard to get real excited about that. But it's even harder to endorse parking it all on the shores of the largest freshwater ecosystem in the world where some thirty odd nuke plants are operating. Let's face it there are NO good solutions at this time. Except one that would help a little. See below.

Unfortunately you can't run a nuke plant without using a lot of water. And water and rad waste are not a good combo. Seems like the best thing we could do is stop making any more waste ASAP. I know that's not practical, just shutting a multi billion industry down but it really is the best we can do.

Re other the DOE points to address

9. How can the Government continue to explore or implement the PI concept in a fair, open and transparent manner going forward?

I honestly don't see how it can based on past history. So let's not even try.

10 What, if any, supporting agreements might be expected between the Government and the host state/tribe/local community associated with a PI?

I hate to say this but seems like the community that benefitted from the jobs tax breaks etc of the operating nuke plants should probably be responsible for monitoring the waste Bummer since I never wanted those plants. And I live next to four of em.

Regrettably most of my neighbors DID want Ginna and Nine Mile one and two and Fitz. So seems only appropriate that WE should also be stuck with looking after the waste. For 100,000 years LOL. Hey talk about job security! Maybe by then the Great Lakes will have dried up to supply Southern California like the Aral Sea in Russia.

Re the rest of the points- honestly there's no way to seriously talk about this stuff. So let's not waste any more time trying. Store it monitor it keep it above ground so we can do that and Stop Making More of it.

respectfully yours downstream resident Susan P Gateley