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Dear Steve Zappe;

Thank you for talking with me this morning about the DOE proposed modification... permit in regard to PCB contaminated waste.

At your suggestion I also talked at some length with Don Hancock. I'll never grasp all the political and scientific ins and outs of this process, but some things seem fairly clear:

1) On the "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" theory, what is the rationale for changing the present standard for PCB/ppm? (this is not clear)

2) It sounds as if there are contradictions in the EPA regulations regarding PCB et. al. These need to be identified and clarified.

3) NMED apparently has the authority - without consequences short of Domenici - to refuse permit modifications and to request changes there in if approved.

Therefore it seems to me that unlimited PCB allowance in nuclear waste would be unwise, especially because transporters will not know what they are dealing with in case of accidents (which are always foreseeable). Unlimited allowance is another relaxing of safety, space



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