

## Karen Jacques

I wish to express my strong opposition to the use and siting of any new reactors or micro reactors anywhere because nuclear energy is not clean, safe energy and there are no long term solutions to disposing of nuclear waste, some of which can remain radioactive and dangerous for thousands of years. The extraction of uranium leaves areas permanently poisoned and the workforce that did the extraction sick. Nuclear reactors pose a contamination danger to the sites where they are operated and the people who operate them, nuclear materials can be used to make nuclear weapons and there is no way to keep nuclear waste safe and secure over the hundreds or thousands of years it takes for it to decay. Because it is so dangerous, it has been impossible to even find a location where nuclear waste can be permanently stored so our country has remained stuck with horribly contaminated sites like Hanford and the Santa Susana Field Lab and nothing has been done about them..

Additionally it has proved to be extremely expensive to build and run nuclear reactors with relentless tax overruns. The military has already contributed to horrible nuclear contamination in our country and around the world that hasn't been remediated and cost overruns on nuclear projects have been huge. If the military is serious about addressing the climate crisis, it needs to operate with clean energy including solar, wind and geothermal energy, not nuclear, and, it needs to phase out the use of fossil fuels which it has made no serious attempt to do. Additionally, our country needs to find ways to solve its problems peacefully instead of engaging in one deadly, toxic, failed war after another. I am outraged that even one penny of public money is being spent on nuclear reactors of any kind. Nuclear energy of any kind is a false solution, a danger to public health and safety and to future generations and it is a rip off of our tax dollars.