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From: "Judy Hogan" <judyhogan@mindspring.com>
To: "Senator Jesse Helms" <jesse_helms@helms.senate.go...>
Date: Wed, Mar 29, 2000 9:39 AM
Subject: Shearon Harris is a great danger in our neighborhood!

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 March 29, 2000

OFFICE
OF
ADJUTANT
GENERAL

Senator Jesse Helms
 U.S. Senate
 Washington, D.C.

SERVED MAR 30 2000

Dear Senator Helms:

I appreciate the response from your office via e-mail, which explains that you receive 2000-4000 e-mails a day, promises a reply to my letter (a copy of one I sent to Durham Herald Sun newspaper), and suggests that I call if something is urgent. I will call your office soon, but I thought I would put my thoughts down for you first here.

I moved in December 1998 to Moncure, which is in the southeastern corner of Chatham County. At the time I moved to this, my first home to own, a nuclear waste dump was in the works for the Wake-Chatham border, about 5 miles from my home. I could not afford to buy a home in most of the Triangle area, but I had this possibility here, liked being near all the water (Jordan Lake is one mile away, the Haw, Deep, and Rocky Rivers not much farther, which form the Cape Fear River Basin. I decided to move here and fight against the low level nuclear dump planned by Southeast Compact. It took a continuing fight, in which the Moncure people and other Chatham residents worked especially hard, but we did persuade the state of North Carolina to refuse that dump.

A little over a year ago we learned that Carolina Power and Light was requesting permission from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to double its storage of hot nuclear waste at the Shearon Harris plant, which is eight miles by air from me, and the railroad track which carries spent fuel rods monthly from other CP & L plants, is one mile away, and runs through Moncure and along Highway #1 to New Hill, where the Harris plant is. I began to work for the safer option, the storage of these extremely dangerous fuel rods in dry casks as soon as it is possible (for a few years they have to be stored in pools). It apparently for CP & L is a matter of saving 1/2 of 1% of their profits to refuse to use this safer option, which the NRC agrees is safer. So I have been writing letters and talking to other people, friends in Durham, Chapel Hill, and Raleigh, and my new neighbors here in Moncure. Most of the people in Moncure are not rich. Most work in local factories, are in construction, or own small businesses. In fact, one woman told me that her husband had done work on clearing land for Shearon Harris and couldn't understand why they were building it on an earthquake fault. This is true*it is on an earthquake fault! The owner of a very successful quick stop store in our area has encouraged me to keep him abreast of our fight for the safer option, and he has his employees read everything I give him.

Most of these people won't write letters. But they are very worried. I

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believe this to be a non-partisan issue. Actually, everyone who lives within 50 miles of this plant, 20 miles from Raleigh, 25 from Chapel Hill and Durham, less from Cary, Apex, Sanford, is at risk now, for already they have stored many more times the amount of the lethal Cesium 137 than was released at Chernobyl, where most of the population is sick or has already died.

I attended the public meetings held by the NRC last December and spoke of my concerns, as did many citizens, scientists, and physicians. CP & L has not really answered our questions.

I know that ultimately the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is responsible to Congress. If what I am learning is true, they have not been as careful through the years as they should be in their job of overseeing nuclear plants in our country. Here we don't understand why they haven't already said no to CP & L, or why they haven't permitted the full evidentiary hearing, with the testimony of scientists about the hazards of what Shearon Harris is trying to do.

There is concern about the pipes which supply the essential cooling water, which, in essence, prevents a melt-down of the nuclear reactor and the release of dangerous radioactivity where so much material is stored. At CP & L's Brunswick plant, in early March, they narrowly avoided a serious accident, because of human error and the failure of one of the backup generators. This meant that the water in the cooling pools couldn't be kept at the right temperature. If it boils off, the reactor can melt down. We here in North Carolina have had many weather emergencies with power outages over the last few years, from hurricanes, floods, snow and ice. I am sure that CP & L tries to do a good job, but I have the impression from their correspondence with me and their public statements that they are saving face, trying to keep up their corporate image, rather than putting safety first, even their own! They claim to be good corporate citizens, but in this area, for me, they have failed absolutely to do that!

I appreciate anything you can do to help the NRC do its job more effectively (a full Congressional investigation seems in order because of their pro-industry bias) and to persuade CP & L to drop their request for additional pool storage and begin work on the dry cask storage at the generating plants. We don't need this lethal material traveling on the train tracks through central North Carolina either! Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Judy Hogan

cc: Representative David Price, Senator John Edwards, Governor James Hunt, Mr. William Cavanaugh, CEO, CP & L, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Durham, Chatham, Wake, and Orange County Commissioners, Triangle area newspapers, friends

CC: "Alice Gordon" <Gordonam@mindspring.com>, "Barry J..."

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY) Docket No. 50-400-LA
)
(Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant))

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing LIMITED APPEARANCE STATEMENT have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, except as otherwise noted and in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

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Docket No. 50-400-LA

Docket No. 50-400-LA
LIMITED APPEARANCE STATEMENT

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland,
this 30th day of March 2000