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Comments for the Record : in the matter of the Draft Report for Comment concerning the GEIS, Supplement 4, regarding the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 and Southern Nuclear Operating Co. Inc's desire to re-license this radioactive wart on the face of the planet for another twenty years, and the NRC intending to sanction it.

There is one question the NRC forgot to ask, because NRC was too busy jumping to fulfill Southern's request - NRC forgot to ask how high it should jump up from its grovelling position it takes on, while resting, in front of the nuclear industry, in order to get this re-licensing through ; it jumped, and jumped and jumped happily regurgitating large chunks of the License Renewal Application while tossing the phrase "the staff has not identified any significant.....(fill in the blank)" like confetti. As far as the NRC is concerned, radioactively gassing South Georgia via the Direct Torus Vent System while trying to gain time in the event of a MELTDOWN is just fine. That a meltdown at Hatch was calculated IN NRC's CRAC - 2 Report and the estimate of the dead (700 dead per Unit based on the 1982 data for population) and of the 20 mile FATAL RADIUS (twenty mile) and the 70 mile (seventy mile) injury radius doesn't matter either - after all, I provided all this information back to the NRC, as one has to show the NRC its own documents and U.S. House of Representatives documents on NRC's documents, as the NRC suffers collective amnesia, and it was ignored. As long as Southern Nuclear says the public is going to evacuate at 8.2 feet a second (p 5-9 GEIS) the question to be answered by Southern is , how fast and how far are the dead meant to be tossed in order to get the bodies out of the area ? Does Southern intend to bring in squads of Olympic weightlifters to help ? Who will toss them, as they die ? How many more will be needed ? How many lead-lined coffins does Southern have in storage to bury the radioactively contaminated dead ? The GEIS has not addressed the issue, or the risk-benefit costs Southern and the NRC love, of lead-lined coffins versus just plain lead coffins and who gets to try lift them. - The ~~meteorological~~ data only covered 3 years - but NRC

ignored what I said about that too.

Rather than reargue what I already have said, I am enclosing my May 10th testimony, supplements dated May 29th, June 4th, June 7th, all of 2000, plus my June 15th and June 18th 2000 letters concerning the 2.206 Petition against this dump NRC talked its way out of, with the reminder that THE JUNE 15th, 2000 LETTER SAID IT WAS TO BE PROVIDED TO THE HATCH RELICENSING STAFF AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE PART OF IT ALSO. I would also note that both the NRC and FEMA have been giving me the runaround on the fact that the area could not be evacuated in time etc. etc. and NRC (according to FEMA) did not supply FEMA with all documents, and NRC admitted to me, after

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an argument we had that would have made the breaking of the sound barrier pale in comparison, that SINCE THE NRC DOES NOT CONSIDER A MELTDOWN CREDIBLE, THEY SENT FEMA WHAT TO WORK ON BASED ON WHAT THEY THOUGHT WAS CREDIBLE - EVEN THOUGH THEY ALSO ADMITTED TO ME THAT A MELTDOWN WAS POSSIBLE . I FIND ALL THIS ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE.

I expect everything I have enclosed to be included in full in any and all subsequent GEIS reports on Hatch , Draft or FINAL.

- A. The NRC staff's preliminary recommendation is, quote" that the Commission determine that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for HNP are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy-planning decision makers would be unreasonable."
- B. The GEIS also says that the NRC staff considered public comments recieved during the scoping period for the review.
- C. The GEIS also states that the GEIS serves as the principal reference for all nuclear plant license renewal Environmental Impact Statements.

Regarding "A" above : define "not so great"

Regarding "B" above : If they had considered public comments instead of blatantly disregarding them, the NRC staff would be recommending DENIAL of license renewal - but, as stated earlier, they were too busy jumping to fulfill Southern's request. It's hard to read whilst jumping.

Regarding "C" above : God help us all. The bloody thing isn't worth the paper it's written on.

License renewal is how the NRC and the industry is trying to get around all federal and state laws and other requirements that would come into play if there were a request to license a new nuclear power plant. Because old nuclear plants are so degraded and radioactively contaminated through and through and have contaminated the surrounding environment and population, such license renewals are nothing but an attempt to circumvent current standards and is not only deceitful, but puts the environment and public at grave risk.

To add insult to injury, NRC brought in the D.O.E. - the Death Of the Earth squad, who have massively radioactively contaminated every site beyond redemption, for millenia, as contributors to the supplement, (p. B-1), for example from INEL, where the plutonium reaches 110 feet below the site and a forty square mile plume of Tritium lies beneath it and they have been brought in regarding Hatch on ecology, water use and hydrology etc., give me a break! Bringing in the Death Of the Earth squad as back-up doesn't enhance the NRC's own lousy reputation.

My comments are these two pages and the enclosures. It speaks for itself. And, from now on, whenever the NRC tells me how amazed it is at the depth and breadth of my knowledge, I'm going to ask you all put it in writing. Bearing that in mind, DON'T RELICENSE THIS FACILITY. Shut it down.

Pamela Blockey-O'Brien.
Pamela Blockey-O'Brien.

PS. Do the Vidalia onion growers know their crops'll be impounded in event of a meltdown and same goes for all farmers ?

Enclosures as cited in text.

Given at Scoping Meeting

May 10th, 2000

Statement and Testimony of Pamela Blockey-O'Brien, on behalf of the F.O.R./I.F.O.R (National and International Fellowship of Reconciliation) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, AGAINST the request of Southern Nuclear Operating Company - a subsidiary of The Southern Company - - on behalf of itself and co-owner licensees, namely : Georgia Power Company, Oglethorpe Power Company, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia and the City of Dalton - for a License Renewal under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 as Amended for Renewed Operating Licenses for Nuclear Power Plants Edwin I. Hatch Units I and II, Dockets Number 50-321 and 50-366, located on the banks of the Altamaha River, in Appling County, Georgia, with the Application for License Renewal dated February 2000. The Application is 1200 pages according to NRC, the pages are divided in sections and numbered according to section. After some difficulty I recieved a copy last week. Since then every waking moment (and in my nightmares) I have been going over this Application - an Application, by the way, that reminds one of a crooked used car salesman trying to sell a junk vehicle without disclosing too much about the bombs on board, the ingredients in the bombs, that some of the ingredients are released to the environment as the vehicle travels and that the engine block is more or less held together with baling wire and spit balls.

It saddens me to have to come to a community held hostage by the fact that around 70% of its tax base comes from a radioactive hulk which threatens their existance by its mere presence, with a high level radioactive waste dump inside it and another one being created outside it, the contents of which will be radioactive essentially for eternity. When the Georgia Power Company teamed up with the Georgia Institute of Technology and the forerunner of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and forerunner of the Department of Energy, namely the Atomic Energy Commission and brought a research reactor to Georgia Tech on which to train reactor operators so the South could be nuclearized with power plants, you can bet your stock options that few were told the ultimate consequences, just like today. So let us examine the truth :

Just as in a nuclear bomb, inside a nuclear power reactor such as Hatch, the atom is split, or "fissioned" releasing incredible energy, but inside a reactor, with luck, the nuclear reaction is "controlled" and can be stopped. Water is hauled out of the Altamaha River, forced between the hundreds and hundreds of fuel rods containing enriched uranium, the rods grouped in bundles called assemblies, as the atom is split, the water is simultaneously cooling the rods so they don't melt-down, and generating steam to power turbines for generators for electricity. In the process, more than eighty different possible radioactive "split" products, called "fission products" are formed, capable of releasing ionizing radiation, X-Rays, alpha and beta particles, gamma rays or neutrons. For example, Xenon-137 is created which gives off (negative) beta radiation which becomes cesium-137, which gives off gamma radiation. "Activation products" are also created, the violence of the nuclear chain reaction causes existing chemicals in air, water, nearby materials etc. to absorb energy change structure and become radioactive. Approx. 300 different radioactive chemicals created, must then go through many half-lives as they decay back to their natural stable state, all the while emitting radiation. Radioactive particles created decay into other radioactive so-called "daughter products". During the process plutonium is also created in the fuel rods, along with other radioactive "goodies" like Cobalt-60, Cesium-137 and Strontium-90. When there are insufficient atoms left inside the uranium in the fuel to split to maintain a steady power state, rods are said to be "used", or called "spent fuel", The

rods in their assemblies are now the most radioactive thing on the face of the earth more or less, besides an atomic bomb explosion. They are removed from the reactor core underwater for shielding against the incredible radioactive decay heat coming off them and stuck in a pool of water, which is an inside radioactive dump, to sit there forever and forever until someone, somewhere goes one better than The Creator and changes the laws of physics, energy, matter etc. and can render nuclear waste safe. According to information provided me, as of last Nov. Hatch had approximately 302,808 radioactive rods in the pool and 69,440 in the combined cores of Hatch I and II. The Brookhaven Study done for NRC in 1997 regarding radioactive spent fuel estimated a worst case scenario, full pool at a BWR, of 138,000 dead after one year in a 500 mile radius and 2,170 square miles of contaminated land in event of accident, in the pool. The pool is located between the fourth and fifth floor level approx. It is patched because they already dropped a bolt weighing hundreds of pounds into it, ruptured the liner and contaminated the hell out of the place, and have had leaking fuel in reports, yet Southern does not seem to mention this or discuss it under Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives or under Aging Effects regarding the pool, except to discuss water chemistry, when it is known that radiation degrades the cement, steel etc. alloys etc. and causes all types of corrosion, irradiation embrittlement, pitting, and a host of problems they even admit to in the application, for everything at the plants from the reactor to the fuel, pool, and everything involved from the ground up. The CRAC-2 Report to congress back in the early 1980's concerning a core melt at Hatch and releases would cause hundreds of dead per Unit, thousands of injuries and up to \$56 Billion in damages causing radiation injury over a 70 mile radius. It would be the death of middle and south Georgia, due to high groundwater the core melt would hit the Altamaha faster than Southern's executives could leave the State. If it happened at a time when the Altamaha's flow was high, as in 1993/94/95, when in some months it ranged between around 45,000 cubic feet a second to around 70,000 cubic feet a second at the Doctortown gauge south of the plant by some miles according to USGS documents, or the December 1948 flood in the applicants own documents of 130,000 cubic feet a second north of the site, it wouldn't take too long to reach Georgia's prime fishing and tourism area, the Golden Isles and the Atlantic. Yet Southern has the absolute gall to state that the offsite economic cost would be \$99,659, and the offsite exposure cost \$72,565 and also that quote: "As the environmental impacts of potential severe accidents are of small significance and because additional measures to reduce such impacts would not be justified from a public ~~health~~ risk perspective

Southern Nuclear Company concludes that no additional severe accident mitigation alternative measures beyond those already implemented during the current license term are warranted for HNP."

Southern modelled all releases, except one only, at ground level, buoyant plume rise was not modelled. They used ONE years worth of site meteorology, instead of 30 year wind roses offsite, onsite meteorology since startup, precipitation and temperature from Georgia records going back a minimum of 180 years, because this information is vital under accident conditions as NRC well knows and needed for daily use - but hey, Georgia Powers Annual Report on Plant Radioactive Effluent Releases for 1996, a report that must be submitted because all nuclear power plants constantly release radioactive contaminants to the environment in order to operate, with subsequent uptake to crops, water, fish, sediment, children, people in general for miles I'll get to later on, Georgia Power told the NRC in writing that they were not submitting it they had it on file and would supply it on NRC request

Hatch is A General Electric Mark I , its a lemon. the 1975 GE so-called "Reed Report" detailed major safety and economic problems with their reactors. Even earlier when the NRC was still the Atomic Energy Commission, your own top staff wanted to ban reactors of the Hatch type becaUSE THEY HAVE NO PROPER CONTAINMENT DOME AT ALL and their pressure-suppression system using a Torus and a piddling containment chamber could lead to disaster, and as late as 1987 NRC confirmed, their pathetic system was virtually certain to fail in a major accident. Hatch has known drywell leakage and you better read all the PNO's and Licensee Event Report on the Torus since startup all about leaking valves, torus water temperature reaching 97 degrees caused (they Docket says) by continuous hot weather increasing the temperature around the reactor building, faulty wiring and a crack in the vent header and the like. To top it off, the reactor for Unit I has a cracked core shroud held together by metal braces which could fail due to embrittlement and vibration.

But I want to get to serious environmental issues, concerning the active contamination of the environment around Hatch and the contaminated sediment in the Altamaha down to the coast at Darien thanks to this dump. As NRC knows, A Curie is a measurement of radiation standardized to radium. One Curie gives off thrifty seven billion macroscopic nuclear explosions a second, euphemistically called "disintegrations" or "transformations" , for comparison, radioactive contamination in the environment is measured in microCurie and Pico Curie levels, usually in the last. It is also measured in milliRems. The State of Georgia maintained until very recently in their Environmental Radiation Surveillance Reports, that average so-called background radiation in Georgia was 40-42 millirem a year- we all know that fallout from past nuclear tests now contributes only one millirem a year, though DOE and NRC (and now the State by the look of it) have been increasing it for years to suit their purposes, saying its "background" when most of it comes from the nuclear fuel cycle and related activities such as emissions from nuclear facilities. Allowable release levels were set, historically, in order to allow quote "reasonable latitude for the expansion of atomic energy programs in the foreseeable future." The purpose of NRC Regulations, is ONLY to make sure the standards for protection NRC came up with in their Part 20 Regulations ^{as the regulations} ~~as the regulations~~ say. NRC (and DOE) set the standard to operate, industry must not go above those standards. It has nothing to do with health or environmental protection or worker protection, Neither NRC nor DOE gives a fig about the workers. Because radiation can't be seen, smelled, etc. tortured mathematical formulas were invented to try and figure out the cell damaging effects , which are immediate and essentially irreversible according to the best medical specialists in the world specializing in radiation, and I do not mean the appalling ICRP who set permissible genetic doses to sperm and ovum. According to the governments own documents, radiation damages the genetic material in reproductive cells and results in mutations transmitted from generation to generation. There is no "safe" dose below which there is no damage, this has now been conclusively proven for the umteenth time. In the environment the effects are cumulative. It bioaccumulates up the food chain. Emissions from reactors, such as Hatch, are poured out the stacks as "Noble gases" seep out of myriad minute openings in the system, and are dumped back to water. For this reason measurements are taken - yet the true effects measureable in blood tests to the population and the animals, and assessment of individual mutations and chromosomal abefation is not done, and it should be. For Southern to be saying that there are no water quality issues in the vicinity of Hatch with the river, that the quality of the groundwater in the vicinity of Hatch is good,

is disgusting, but predictable. Among other things, they contaminated the groundwater at Hatch beginning in 1979, the aquifer to be precise, then in 1982 150,000 gallons of riverwater flooded the turbine and radioactive waste buildings which will have also seeped into the ground water which discharges ultimately to the Altamaha, or could also seep into the other aquifers. In 1986 there was a spent fuel pool accident where 141,500 gallons of water highly contaminated with Cobalt-60, Zinc-65, Manganese 54, Cesium-134, Cesium-137, Tritium. Back in 1979, Cs-137 was still below 20 pCi /kg in sediment, it has since hit 67,000 pCi/kg, - fish, a year after the '86 spill contained Cs-137 up to 750 pCi/kg. In 1999 river sediment in published reports still hit 380 pCi/Kg dry, the cobalt-60 in sediment in 1998 still hit 190 pCi/kg 4 miles downstream and the K-40 14,000 pCi/kg. The Beryllium-7 which Georgia Power admitted to me of course comes from the reactor and it goes up and down like yo-yo in vegetation -10,600 pCi/kg in '97, as does the Cesium-137 for example in '97 it hit 473 pCi/kg vegetation 10 miles south of the plant which even though it's one of the wind , the State calls it background - but then, as I explained to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Judges how the State operates back in '96 that's no huge surprise either. You need to impound and read every test ever done at the Georgia Tech Lab for the State, the State files and the Utilities records since startup. Not to mention every inspection report the NRC wrote since start-up and violation and so-called non-cited violation, for starters to begin to get the picture, bearing in mind that the Hatch offsite Dose Calculation Manual and Final Safety Analysis Report were written in the stone Age and are outrageous. For example, the ODCM says gaseous radioactive releases at and beyond the site boundary can go to 500 millirems a year to the body and 3,000 mRems a year to the skin for noble gases, and then say they have no limits on the noble gases they can release, and that, for radioactive iodine -131 and 133, tritium (radioactive hydrogen) and all radionuclides in particulate form with half-lives greater than 8 days, up to 1500 millirem to ANY organ, all of the aforementioned as dose rate limits, this is worse than absurd. They say (under ODCM Methodology in their 96 report) that the percent of the ODCM limits are not applicable because they have no Curie limits for gaseous releases. This is the outfit that uses what they term "hypothetical" children as their controlling receptor for the releases, in actuality their own words was "a child in the NW quadrant" if I remember correctly - This is the outfit busy dosing the children and adults at the Roofsides Park, the Camping Area, the Recreation Area and the Visitors Center. This is the outfit dosing the Boy Scouts in that camping area according to their own manual. I don't care how low a dose they maintain the kids are getting from the noble gases or particulates, if the Strontium 90, being a calcium displacer lodges in the kids bone and gives it bone cancer, both child and parent don't ask how little did it get. Strontium-90 decays to Yttrium-90. which is known to concentrate in the hormone producing soft-tissue organs such as the ovaries, testes and pituitary gland, and, according to published reports by the radiation medicine community is a powerful hormone disrupting radioactive chemical not just a powerful carcinogen.. Southern is permitted by Georgia to withdraw a monthly average of 72 Million gallons of water a day with a maximum rate of 103.6 mgd. Georgia must have lost its mind to permit this. The annual average is 57.18 million gallons a day - they say consumptive losses approximate 46%. Translated into "people-speak" that includes the evaporating radioactive steam etc. "losses to the atmosphere"

as they so cutely put it. They say the withdrawal to the alluvial

aquifer recharge is small in impact. That the recharge is also provided by the minor confined aquifer of the Hawthorn Formation to which the alluvium is interconnected. First the Hawthorn is not minor, Hatch sits on top of it as well as the alluvium which is under and on both sides of the Altamaha and the Hawthorn continues on the other side according to the DOE survey of the site and as it is all interconnected and they contaminated the aquifer onsite and so forth the extent of the effects could be massive. Furthermore, a comparison of the DOE survey of soil sample data in the area from long ago, with what has been measured since regarding K-40 and Cesium-137 data, even though the DOE lies and says Cesium-137 is natural, when its man-made, and the plant had been operating a short while and releasing radioactive crud, shows that the area has been contaminated. For example, most K-40 was zero, and the Cesium-137 never went over 310 pCi/kg in soil. K-40 was at 1600 pCi/kg in soil in '99 in one measurement and 6300 pCi/kg in an '88 measurement for comparison, and 3,500 pCi/kg in '84. Cs-137 in soil in '98 in State data provided (which may not be all data-knowing them) reached 240 pCi/kg, in '88 640 pCi/kg and in '84 920 pCi/kg. NRC's attitude has been: oh well, it's lower now. Site geology is actually extremely complex, and, as Hatch also withdraws 1.1 million gallons a day average from the Floridan aquifer also

monthly

beneath the site, for, among other things "process use" such as demineralized water, which is of course ~~xxxxxx~~ using a huge amount of water when calculated over just one year. Georgia, Alabama and Florida are currently engaged in what is termed "water wars" over their water needs, and those needs do not only cover river withdrawals, I don't think. Water issues are among the biggest issues environmentally worldwide and nationwide and are becoming critical, due to the type of pollution from facilities like Hatch, not only other pollution sources. Farmers also rely on this system. At least their needs should take precedence over the needs of a local polluter that could and should have utilized alternative energy years ago.

The Applicant's go into rhapsodies about the ecology of the site, including the wetlands that they contaminated with the spent-fuel pool spill disaster. They neglect to mention that it has been documented for over 40 years that mammals and birds waterfowl etc. are contaminated via ingestion of contaminated seeds, berries and other foods contaminated by nuclear emissions and direct radiation from the facilities and that contamination affects their reproduction, health and is also accumulated in their bones. Migratory species carry the contamination with them. When they die, if ingested by something else, that also becomes contaminated and so it continues. The radioactive iodine from Hatch is measured in the milk in the Tattnall Co dairy, as is the Cs-137 and tritium and strontiums due to uptake via the grass/cow/milk/child pathway. It used to be measured at Appling and Toombs dairies also, which it should be, maybe it still is and I don't have the data. According to NRC and the State, both partly funded by the licensee, the nuclear industry, the attitude is all this is Ok, within the levels, remember. A '94 milk sample of Hatch's showed 500 pCi/L tritium. Although it has been established since decades that tritium at very low levels is particularly hazardous to the developing foetus EPA set a helpful allowable level in water of 20,000 pCi/l. Tritium irradiates as it passes through the body, continued ingestion means continued irradiation and continued damage. One thing is that I believe the Tattnall Co. Dairy is the massive State Prison dairy, which brings me to another issue: Southern has figured out that everyone is going to do the "radiation stumble" namely, that they are all going to evacuate in case of a severe accident - you know, a meltdown and massive release

to air , going at 2.5 Meters - about 7 feet a second_ in a radial distance. The evac. Zone is only 10 miles under the law, but CRAC-2 says the kill-zone is 20 miles. First responders are of course the local fire department and little, cute Appling CO. Emergency headquarters people. Anybody told them that if they try and go in under such circumstances they'll die ? Is Southern/Georgia Power going to evacuate the workers, schoolchildren, shut-ins, prison guards and prisoners from the various area prisons, hospitals, nursery school children ~~at~~ 7 feet a second ? That dump has had three serious events in the last year, the February event could have led to a meltdown. How many times can you get lucky ?

I did not even bother to look at the General Electric data submitted - why should they be trusted ?

Regarding their NPDES Discharge Permit issued by the State of Georgia under the Clean Water Act to Allow discharges to the Altamaha, and also the other Water Quality Certification letter from 1972 by the State.

1) According to the EPA Definitions for NPDES Discharges the NRC provided, they have absolutely no say-so whatsoever over the dumping of most radioactive contaminants, because the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 is involved, they do not cover so called "source, byproduct or Special Nuclear Materials, nor radium or accelerator produced-isotopes as examples. However, "heat " is covered. 2) They did not seem to explain in the ~~attached~~ documents, that the radioactive decay heat is part of what causes the "THERMAL PLUME" . Did they tell the State Water people they dump radioactive water, or that the sediment in the river contains man-mades ? Did they tell National Marine Fisheries or State Fish and Wildlife about this or about the radioactive air emissions when they asked them by letter to evaluate Endangered Species and fish entrainment and similar ? The answer is "NO", one cannot even find the word "radioactive" . I called some of them, they had not been told. Now, the Sturgeon is a bottom feeder, it is Endangered, ingesting a Cobalt-60 particle with its damage to blood and the central nervous system alone is not a nice way for any living being to die. Nor is slow death from constant irradiation from Cesium-137 in its muscles. The fish entrainment study dates back to 1980. Interestingly it noted among the 22 species of fish an unknown egg and an unknown larvae. What was it ? Were there more ? Talk about loss of biodiversity. Extinction is forever. They speak of reforesting areas with the longleaf pine - we know that pines retain radioactive contaminants due to uptake from radioactive air emissions and deposition falling in rain, just like other trees, I did not have time to look up how long the longleafs hold their "needles" if you will, obviously the longer the uptake from soil and water etc. the more contaminated they'd become and when the needles drop the litter would be that much more radioactive for all ground-dwelling species in contact with them, plus re-contaminate the ground at higher levels. Ever tested the Gopher tortoises burrowing on the contaminated site ? If the turtles contaminated on and offsite of the monstrous Death of the Earth (DOE) squad site on the Savannah River are any indicator, the gopher tortoises are probably also contaminated, though probably to a lesser extent.

With regard to transmission lines , the testimony of the eminent Dr. W. Ross Adey , before Congress in 1987 on the issue of electromagnetic (as opposed to ionizing) radiations sent shivers down the spines of the collective electric power industry, partly because of his credentials. The effects on cell membranes and foetal development in animals for example was ghastly and included information on statistically significant increases in leukemia and lymphoma in studies of children exposed to power distribution systems, high voltage power lines

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and the like. These effects must be addressed. His testimony needs to be considered by NRC as he is one of the worlds experts on this issue. Southern has not considered it. Further studies since then agree.

I feel particularly sorry for the workers in the area whose jobs would be impacted. However, the NRC has repeatedly cited the facility over the years for its terrible personnel contamination record among other things, which is why NRC needs to read EVERY Inspection Report ever done. NRC has taken little concrete action, except to repeat that they are "concerned" for the past decades. It should be remembered there are no medical doctors on staff who specialize in health effects of radiation, some of the reports on what has gone on are a nightmare. Like the workers trapped in the drywell. NRC said they had no way of knowing whether or not they died. If I remember correctly, somewhere on the Docket it said they forgot to test them appropriately afterwards. The workers should be compensated, the community should be compensated, and Southern, with its considerable financial and political clout could easily help get replacement work located outside the kill-zone and pay for job retraining and transportation to work. A problem I see always is the worker frustration over potential job loss, which is totally understandable, is sometimes directed at those who explain the dangers, when it should be directed at those who brought the equivalent of a nuclear bomb with a slow leak into their community to begin with. The ultimate tradgedy, is that Southern or Georgia Power, has ~~not~~ ~~been~~ probably not explained to them that due to them getting contaminated inside the plant, even their bodily excreta can become radioactive, and that is the essence of what ~~was~~ behind the NRC taking Hatch to task over the spreading of sewage sludges from the site under the power lines. ~~It~~ It is doubtful they were told that as soon as they enter the site, under NRC Regulations, they are no longer considered "members of the public". If they were to die inside the plant due to contamination - in theory industry and NRC can state No member of the public died that day as a result of radiation exposure.

The Applicant's documents only touch on the terrible, dangerous high-level radioactive waste dump they have prepared outside to put deadly radioactive spent fuel ^{on} inside casks that have never been tested in the real world, and simulated tests involved Hatch sticking a hot water pad inside one to simulate radioactive fuel rods, which the NRC gently pointed out - oh, so politely - that it "did not accurately simulate the temperatures." The casks - space for 48 is created - will stream gamma radiation into the environment and workers on the pad at a weekly rate of 21,000 millirem off the sides alone, next to the casks, each cask. A former military nuclear scientist has assured me that terrorists could blow the top off the cask in a twinkling of an eye from considerable distance, other research shows a few rounds from a Milan anti-tank weapon could blast it to smithereens from 6000 feet with catastrophic results. People are being told it is temporary storage and that it will either be sent to Yucca Mountain or to a site on the Goshute Indian Reservation in Utah being prepared by a consortium that includes Southern, and the company, PFS that has prepared the site in Georgia. One of the leaders of the Goshute opposition to this wanted me to remind everyone, that their tribal chair does not speak for them all, and they do not intend to be at the recieving end of 4,000 casks from across the country into their valley where they already must endure myriad hazardous industries and military weapons test sides on their borders. In the end, in all probability, South Georgia is going to be left with a nuclear dump inside the plant and one outside, forever. The outside one would be eliminated if the plant is shutdown quite soon and no more nuclear waste is generated.

5000 more assemblies at sixty rods a bundle will be generated without shut

down. This insanity must stop. Yucca Mountain is also basically dead in the water, literally.

This is the South. If a Sheriff found out that someone had a decrepit junk car, with a cracked engine block wrapped with baling wire, that not only couldn't pass emissions tests, not only leaked gasoline into the local creek, but carried a deadly cargo locked in the trunk capable of killing an entire county, and a second deadly cargo strapped inside, in a patched bucket, and the exhaust leaked into the car and gassed passengers periodically, plus sprayed neighbors crops, kids and livestock with a fine gasoline mist as a bonus, not only would the offender be jailed for reckless endangerment and a lot more besides, but both the sheriff and the judge would laugh in the face of any such a car owner, if they told the judge and sheriff, having such a car kept mechanics employed, that the people in the car were paid to be gassed periodically or that misting neighbors crops and kids was OK, because the owners manual and the people that wrote the owners manual said it was. That's more or less the situation - only the sheriff and the judge got written out of the loop by the Atomic Energy Act and the NRC and a lot more besides. The NRC is in the loop and holds the power. For the love of God, at least prevent a meltdown and shut this dump down. When the spent fuel pool goes, NRC can watch it on TV from Washington - until the plume hits it. But don't worry about that, I'm sure there's a regulation that says the dose won't damage you all, that NRC wrote. Just remember this, we are all accountable to the Almighty for our actions and I doubt the Creator is pleased with the despoilers of life on earth. Thank you.

Paula Blockey-O'Brien