

10/21/03

From: <JuliannaP@aol.com>
To: <GrandGulfEIS@nrc.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 11, 2004 3:39 PM
Subject: Oppose Grand Gulf Expansion

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Rules and Directives
Branch
USNRC

February 11, 2004

Julianna Padgett
935 Dante Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Re: Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant, Port Gibson, Miss. - Site Permit for New Nuclear Reactor

Dear Sir/Madam,

I object to the proposed expansion of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant located near Port Gibson, Mississippi for several reasons.

1) This facility is located on the Mississippi River, a link to areas through Mississippi, New Orleans, Louisiana, and the Gulf of Mexico. As a life long resident, I know that is in an area prone to damage from hurricanes, tornadoes and flooding. An accident or act of sabotage at this facility and its growing inventory of nuclear waste could contaminate and be devastating to everyone downstream and downwind, such as me and my family! It also could devastate the seafood industries that produce economic benefits each year totaling many millions of dollars to this area and the United States.

2. Another major concern is inadequate emergency planning and infrastructure in Claiborne County and beyond. Money that should be available for this planning, has been distributed to other counties in Mississippi. This has left Claiborne County's emergency planning infrastructure extremely underfunded to deal with the present nuclear plant and unable to add a new plant. If we look at all the related services, it can be seen that there is not adequate money available to fund the Sheriff's Department, Civil Defense or the Fire Department. There is only one fire station in the rural county, and the hospital in Port Gibson is not open 24 hours per day. Unfortunately, the emergency plan relies heavily on teachers to shelter and evacuate school children, even though the teachers may not have obtained consent from parents and guardians. This heavy burden should not be born just by the teachers. There needs to be a coordinated system of emergency services.

3. 82 percent of Claiborne County is African American, making the proposal to put another dangerous facility in this community a clear case of environmental racism.

4. There are too many other ways to generate energy to go this dangerous route. The U.S. needs to invest in sustainable sources of energy production - nuclear power is not a safe or economically viable means.

There has been little emergency planning to safeguard area residents and there does not appear to be resources for emergency planning for a new plant, in case of an accident or act of terrorism at the facility. The U.S. has given little consideration and investment of alternative sources for energy production. For the sake of saving human lives and promoting strategic economic/energy decisions, please deny the request for an early site permit for expansion of Grand Gulf Nuclear.

Sincerely,
Julianna Padgett

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