

From: "William Ferris" <wferris@email.unc.edu>
To: <GrandGulfEIS@nrc.gov>
Date: Mon, Feb 9, 2004 9:51 AM

12/31/03
68 FR 75656
14

February 9, 2004

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

RECEIVED
2004 FEB 19 AM 9:48
Rules and Directives
Division

Re: Early Site Permit for new nuclear reactor at Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant, Port Gibson, Miss.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my objections to the proposed expansion of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant located near Port Gibson, Miss. I oppose a permit for this plant because of site characteristics that pose an undue risk. This facility is located on the Mississippi River 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 the Mississippi River, New Orleans and the Gulf of Mexico. It could be devastating to everyone downstream and downwind including seafood industries that produce economic benefits each year totaling many millions of dollars.

One major concern is inadequate emergency planning and infrastructure in Claiborne County and beyond. Due to the Mississippi Legislature's decision to take away \$200 million in tax revenues generated from Grand Gulf and give them to other counties in the state, Claiborne County's emergency planning infrastructure is woefully underfunded to deal with the present nuclear plant-let alone a new plant. 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. The radiological emergency plan relies heavily on teachers to shelter and evacuate school children without obtaining adequately informed consent or any statutory authority.

Entergy wants to dump yet another dangerous facility on the mostly

template - ADM-013

ADM03
Add: James Wilson

African American residents who live in Claiborne County, which is 82 percent African American. This is a clear case of environmental racism. There are significant impediments to emergency planning to safeguard area residents in case of an accident or act of terrorism at the facility. Please deny this request for an early site permit for expansion of Grand Gulf Nuclear.

Sincerely,

William Ferris

Joel R. Williamson Distinguished Professor of History
Adjunct Professor in the Curriculum in Folklore
Senior Associate Director, Center for the Study of the American South
CB # 9127
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-9127

919-962-5538 (w)
919-962-4433 (FAX)
919-619-1047 (cell)
email: wferris@unc.edu
<http://www.unc.edu/depts/history/faculty/ferris.html>
<http://www.unc.edu/depts/csas/>
<http://www.unc.edu/depts/folklore/>

(home address)
1 Mint Springs Lane
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-968-8280 (h)
919-968-8024 (FAX)