

From: "Micah Walker" <mwalker@all4energy.org>
To: <GrandGulfEIS@nrc.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 11, 2004 9:25 PM
Subject: comment regarding new reactor at Grand Gulf, MS

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2004 FEB 19 AM 9:46
Rules and Directives
Branch
USNRC

February 11, 2004

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

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on the behalf of the Alliance for Affordable Energy, a non-profit, public interest, membership organization dedicated to creating fair, affordable, environmentally responsible, community-based energy policies for Louisiana and the nation. We wish to express our sincere concerns and objections to the proposed expansion of the Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant located near Port Gibson, Miss. The site of the proposed expansion, located on the Mississippi River, carries with it unacceptable risks from hurricanes, tornadoes and flooding. Any accident or act of sabotage at this facility could contaminate the Mississippi River, New Orleans and the Gulf of Mexico, devastating the health, environment and economy of this area.

Another major concern is information we have received regarding inadequate emergency planning and infrastructure in Claiborne County. 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 has crippled Claiborne County's emergency planning infrastructure leaving it underfunded and unprepared to deal with the present nuclear plant, much less a new plant. It has been brought to our attention 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, the hospital in Port Gibson is not open 24 hours per day, and the radiological emergency plan relies heavily on teachers to shelter and evacuate school children without obtaining adequately informed consent or any statutory authority. This is far from the ideal scenario should the worst occur.

The community surrounding the facility is 82 percent African American, which makes this proposal ring 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. Based on all of the above factors, we ask that you deny this request for an early site permit for expansion of Grand Gulf Nuclear facility.

Sincerely,

Stumpfle = ADM-013

K-RIDS = ADM-03
Call = James Wilson (JHWI)

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