

From: "marianne hill" <Mhill@ihl.state.ms.us>
 To: <GrandGulfEIS@nrc.gov>
 Date: Fri, Feb 13, 2004 3:37 PM
 Subject: Opposed to Grand Gulf Early Site Permit

12/31/03
 68 FR 75254

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

Dear Sir -- Women have historically been concerned about issues that society has neglected -- from care for children, the elderly, the mentally ill. Too often our leaders do not make decisions based on what would be best in the long-term. Our relatively weak attempts to develop alternative energy technologies, or to find safe means of disposing of nuclear waste, show a lack of commitment to a sustainable economy -- that is, to a way of doing things that would ensure that our grandchildren can enjoy safe and sufficient energy resources and a clean environment. In that spirit, I am opposed to the Early Site Permit for an additional nuclear reactor at Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant, Port Gibson, Miss.

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Entergy has said that energy from the plant is not needed at this time. There are more viable alternatives to nuclear power and that the money would better be spent developing these alternatives in the state.

In the past, contractors have not met specifications in building plants, unexpected accidents have occurred, and there is still no safe way of disposing of nuclear waste -- I expect the plans are for it to stay by the MS River until opposition to the waste being shipped across the country ends.

In addition, there are problems with the location of the facility -- on the Mississippi River in an area prone to damage from hurricanes, tornadoes and flooding. Terrorism is a valid concern.

An accident or act of sabotage at this facility and its stored nuclear waste could contaminate the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico. This would be disastrous to the communities downstream that depend on the River for drinking water. Also, the extensive industrial corridor between Baton Rouge and New Orleans depends on the River water for processing. These industries would have to be shut down. Contamination of vital wetlands that provide 'nurseries' for larval and other developmental stages of fish, for shrimp, oysters, etc., could devastate the seafood industry. Certainly the tourist industries in Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas would be affected. We are talking potentially billions of dollars

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 Ack - James Wilson
 (JHW)

and innumerable lives lost or changed because of an accident at this plant.

I am also concerned about the inadequate emergency planning and infrastructure in Claiborne County and beyond. Claiborne County's emergency planning infrastructure is too under-funded 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.

I have heard much discussion of environmental racism and also believe this is a relevant issue.

I ask that you deny this request for an early site permit for the expansion of Grand Gulf Nuclear.

Sincerely yours,
Marianne Hill
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Madison, MS 39110

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