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From:

Sally Shaw

TACs:

MC4916

To:

NRC

*** YELLOW ***

For Signature of:

Routing:

Dyer
Borchardt
Sheron
Carpenter
NRR Mailroom

Description:

Letter from Sally Shaw re: Entergy-VT Yankee Nuclear Reactor

Assigned To:

DLPM

Contact:

MARSH, LEDYARD (TAD) B

Special Instructions:

Sally Shaw
100 River Rd.
Gill, MA 01354

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, DC 20555-0001

October 12, 2004

In the name of Massachusetts residents living in communities downwind of the ENVY reactor, I respectfully ask you to release the engineering inspection report to the public and allow sufficient time for perusal before holding an exit meeting or hearing on the uprate.

Dear Sirs:

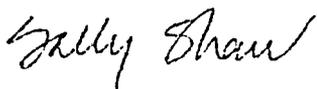
By now the NRC has conducted its engineering assessment of the Entergy-VT Yankee Nuclear Reactor. The inspection was scheduled for completion September 6, 2004. It is likely that NRC will schedule an exit meeting with Entergy soon. If the exit meeting precedes issuance of the inspection report the public will be denied the opportunity to ask informed questions in a public and on-the-record manner. This is unconscionable, but the NRC has shown it is rather insensitive to public concerns before: they refused the public's demand for an independent safety assessment as performed at Maine Yankee (16,000 person-hours plus 4000 person-hours onsite inspection), replacing it with just 700 person-hours of inspection effort. The request for the Maine Yankee-type assessment was endorsed by the VT Governor, the VT House of Representatives, the U.S. Senators and Representative from VT, the New Hampshire Legislature, members of the MA House and Senate who represent communities in the 10-mile EPZ and beyond, and several municipal boards. The NRC denied the VT Public Service Board's request to allow an independent scientist to participate in the engineering review, ignored requests by intervenors, the VT Attorney General, and the VT US Congressional delegation to extend the filing deadline for a hearing until after the assessment report was issued (apparently in violation of its own procedural requirements) and denied the VT Dept. of Public Service requests to include certain topical areas and independent calculations of uprated analyses in the engineering assessment.

It reflects badly on the NRC as a regulatory agency supposedly acting in the public interest that it appears to be shutting out public participation at every turn. This will undoubtedly come back to haunt the agency, in loss of credibility and authority.

In the name of Massachusetts residents living in communities downwind of the reactor, I respectfully request you to release the engineering inspection report and allow sufficient time for public perusal before holding an exit meeting or hearing on the uprate.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Sally Shaw