

DOCKET NUMBER
PETITION FILE # 73-12
(69 FR 64690)

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From: <EECOStar@aol.com>
To: <SECY@nrc.gov>
Date: Mon, Nov 22, 2004 11:57 AM
Subject: Re: Petitiopn for Upgrading Protection of Nukes

DOCKETED
USNRC

November 22, 2004 (12:48pm)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Dear Sir:

I have been made aware that the NRC is currently reviewing and receiving public comments in light of a petition filed 11/08/04 in the Federal Register Vol. 69 #215 titled Upgrading the Design Basis for Protection against Terrorist Attacks on Nuclear Stations.

I cannot think of any more urgent homeland security issue than this. The mere fact that two of the hi-jacked jets on 9/11 exceeded the designed capacity of the Indian Point stations to sustain a direct hit from the air and that they flew directly over the plants(and even considered them as a target it now seems) should have you scrambling to make the necessary design upgrades ASAP. Instead it appears business as usual and complacency(study the issue) may guide us for years to the next more horrific catastrophe, i.e., either a breach in containment or destruction of highly radioactive nuclear spent fuel storage in unhardened, vulnerable temporary structures! The foolishness of looking for weapons of mass destruction and dirty bomb materials in Iraq while we have tons of the very stuff stored in the midst of vulnerable population centers all across this country does not escape those of us who have been concerned with just such a scenario for decades now.

Prior to 9/11 I was apalled at the lax security around the Connecticut Yankee Nuclear station where decommissioning was ongoing and spent fuel is stored in a thin metal building. I watched as trespassers on ATV's routinely rode through the acreage surrounding the plant often within a few hundred meters of the complex. But that was then and this is now...now you should be hard on guard at every plant in the country and upgrading designs as rapidly as is possible, regardless of the expense to an industry which never should have proliferated to the extent that it has. To not move rapidly to implement Design Basis Threat avoidance measures would be the modern equivalent of "fiddling while Rome (read global terrorism) burns" to paraphrase from the latter days of the Roman empire when Emperor Nero stood and ignored the flames of his empire disintgraing around him.

I can think of no greater clear and present danger for those of us living daily in the midst of these horrendous accumulations of highly radioactive materials than the threat now realized in potential terrorist sabotage. These threats have been alluded to thoroughout the history of the industry and they are now seen to be real, even in the mock OSRE studies conducted by your agency. We cannot allow the industry, backed by their own insider in the person of the Vice-President Cheney, to pretend any longer that nuclear power is secure and safe in America....god forbid we actually have to start hauling the spent fuel assemblies across the country as is planned. Better that they be stored forever in case hardened structures right where they are as testament to the foolishness of the age that spawned them. It is time to take this issue to the top of the agenda as the world is now more charged with terrorist threats to our continued way of life than ever in our history thanks to the anger resulting from our expeditionary foolishness of looking for nuclear materials in Iraq.

Please take immediate and sober action on the intent of the petition before you. Don't let history repeat itself in ways too horrific to even imagine

Template = SECY-067

SECY-02

since we now know from the 'Al Qaeda handbooks found in Afghanistan that our nuke stations are indeed targets regardless of where they are located!

Sincerely,

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Norfolk, CT 06058

Mail Envelope Properties (41A21A54.192 : 0 : 20882)

Subject: Re: Petitiopn for Upgrading Protection of Nukes
Creation Date: Mon, Nov 22, 2004 11:53 AM
From: <EECOStar@aol.com>

Created By: EECOStar@aol.com

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Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	3630	Monday, November 22, 2004 11:53 AM
TEXT.htm	4348	
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Options

Expiration Date: None
Priority: Standard
Reply Requested: No
Return Notification: None

Concealed Subject: No
Security: Standard