From: "Michael Neil" <mneil@du.edu>
To: "NorthAnna_ESP@nrc.gov" <NorthAnna_ESP@nrc.gov>
Date: Sun, Dec 12, 2004 3:22 PM
Subject: Please find an alternative to the North Anna nuclear project

December 12, 2004

Alicia Williamson
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear NRC,

I urgre the NRC to reconsider issuing an Early Site Permit to the North Anna nuclear project on the basis that it will not adversely impact the environment. I am writing to ask the NRC to examine the "cradle to cradle" effects of building a new nuclear plant. From construction, to power generation, to disposing of and storing the spent fuel, the proposed nuclear site would be detrimental to the environment and local communities.

The construction of the plant - including truck traffic, smog and building waste, will be detrimental to the environment. Further, Lake Anna cannot physically support the addition of new reactors. The increased water use associated with the new reactor will cause the lake level to drop significantly. Lower water levels will adversely impact the lake and could lower property values. Lake temperature will be affected, probably killing the lifeforms that inhabit it.

Currently, there is no national policy on nuclear waste storage. Should the spent fuel rods from North Anna be kept on site, or should they be shipped to another site, I believe that they would pose a threat to the environment and local communities. Fuel rods have gone missing in the past years, and until the nation has a safe and secure means to store spent fuel, the rods pose a risk to the environment and in a worst-case scenario, could end up in the wrong hands.

I am opposed to new nuclear power. I would prefer that Dominion meet its power capacity needs using clean energy like wind or biomass. In reevaluating the ESP and the EIS, the NRC should urge Dominion to consider other alternatives to an expensive nuclear plant. Constructing new reactors would be bad for Virginia's environment, bad for taxpayers, and bad for residential and commercial ratepayers.

Thank you sincerely for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael Neil
2551 S High St
Denver, CO 80210-5145
USA
mneil@du.edu

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