

From: "New Mississippian" <newmsian@hotmail.com>
To: <grandgulfeis@nrc.gov>
Date: Thu, Jul 14, 2005 4:05 PM
Subject: Comments

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70FR22155

Re NUREG-1817

I have read the comments submitted by Ruth Pullen of Jackson, MS, and want to second everything she has said and by reference incorporate her comments into mine. I was not able to open the DEIS online but did attend the June 28 meeting in Port Gibson.

I want to mention an additional aspect of safety concerns, especially for NRC readers who may not have driven past the GGNS. Since my first drive past the plant years ago through June 28, 2005, there has been an "evacuation route" sign not far beyond the plant (farther out in the country, toward the Mississippi River) which points evacuees BACK PAST THE PLANT in order to escape a disaster. This time I learned that the sign points that way because the road beyond the plant floods in heavy rains and cannot be used for evacuation to the main highway when flooded. Because GGNS tax revenues have been diverted by state law from Claiborne County to about 40 other counties, no money has been available to build a viable road and bridges to provide an arguably defensible escape route to the north instead of back past the plant. The tax diversion makes this an environmental justice issue as well. This site is not safe for one plant, never mind for two. (Two or three side roads are not marked as to whether they have an outlet to the main highway - a special danger to tourists unfamiliar with the area who might get caught at Grand Gulf Military Park, beyond the plant from Port Gibson.)

Aside from being near the Mississippi River, overflows from which could become problematic, the Grand Gulf plant and proposed GGII are on the New Madrid earthquake fault.

I am also concerned that the DEIS does not seem to have considered the fact that our environment includes all the people and things around us. The people of Entergy have not seen fit to employ African Americans or Claiborne County residents in representative numbers at GGNS. The people of Entergy have not seen fit to provide the training (itself or working with neighboring Alcorn State University) that would qualify additional African Americans or Claiborne County residents for technical or professional jobs at the plant. So even if GGNS were a safe place to work, given the waste and accident or terrorism issues, the human part of the GGNS environment is counterproductive to the welfare of the majority of the residents of the area and therefore to all.

I want to reiterate Ruth Pullen's statement about significant information missing from the DEIS, which is therefore incomplete and should not have been submitted in its current condition.

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