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**NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION**

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Public Scoping Meeting

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Location: Brattleboro, Vermont

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING

FOR THE VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER STATION,

LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

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TUESDAY,

JUNE 6, 2006

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BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT

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The Public Meeting was convened at the
Quality Inn at 1380 Putney Road in Brattleboro,
Vermont, at 2:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS:

MICHAEL MULLIGAN

NANCY CROMPTON

ELLEN KAYE

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2:34 p.m.

MR. MULLIGAN: Hello. I'm Mike Mulligan.

I live in Hinsdale, New Hampshire, P.O. Box, 161, Hinsdale, New Hampshire 03451. And my concern is with global warming. What I understand is that the Connecticut River, upstream of Vermont Yankee has been heating up slightly, especially during the summers. It's been turning up for a decade or so, the peak summertime temperatures, as an example.

Or how about river low-flows in a drought situation? So the question is will the re-licensing of Vermont Yankee have -- will they consider what global warming could potentially do with the river temperatures? Will Vermont Yankee have to power down at times for that? Will the environmental temperatures inside the buildings and stuff, are they -- the design environmental temperatures, are they adequate enough so that we wouldn't be confronted with shutting down the plant during the summer, summer time?

I'm concerned about say we're in a drought in the summer time and the plant -- and we approach their limits. Probably around that time other plants would be stressed and the grid of New England would be

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1 stressed. So the question is well, do you want to
2 make the grid worse at its most vulnerable time with
3 shutting down Vermont Yankee? Do you want to push the
4 grid electric prices to astronomical prices? Do you
5 want to de-stabilize, the grid maybe, because of not
6 enough voltage or whatever it is.

7 So I'm generally concerned about
8 projecting out what global warming could potentially
9 do and make sure that there's an adequate margin so
10 that you wouldn't have to cycle down the plant during
11 the summer times. That's it. I talked about cycling
12 down the plant. I meant reducing power. So that's
13 either shutting down the plant or reducing power to 50
14 percent or some sort of percent type of thing and
15 stuff.

16 (Off the record.)

17 MS. CROMPTON: Hi. I'm Nancy Crompton, a
18 resident of Brattleboro, Vermont. I live four miles
19 from Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. My concerns
20 about living so close to the power plant are concerns
21 that, in fact, would not be alleviated even if I were
22 living far away from the nuclear power plant which I
23 have over the past few months been contemplating. The
24 fact is that there are people, there are 103 nuclear
25 power plants in the United States, all of them

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1 generating nuclear waste for which we have no long-
2 term disposal solution.

3 I've been told that the Federal Government
4 is supposed to have a plan in place by 2025 and I wish
5 to state that that is utterly unacceptable. It is on
6 our watch right now. It is our generation that is
7 responsible for the creation of the nuclear waste and
8 we need a solution, not soon, not tomorrow, but
9 yesterday, decades ago.

10 We have no moral right to create a poison
11 that can affect the earth and all living creatures for
12 a half life of 25,000 years, if I remember that
13 correctly. We have no moral right to do this.
14 We also do not have to demand so much electricity. We
15 don't really require it. Our inflated desires for the
16 expansion of electrical power have been -- are a 20th
17 century notion of progress at any cost. The cost is
18 now coming due and we are going to have to begin
19 paying for the expansion and -- oh dear, I'm starting
20 to ramble. Can we turn it off?

21 (Off the record.)

22 And I very much want to hear the NRC, the
23 Regulatory Commission and other leaders in our country
24 talking about conservation. This is indeed a war.
25 It's as if we are at war against our unchecked desire

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1 to progress at the expense of other nations and at the
2 expense of the environment. And we can indeed change
3 our ways and show a willingness to conserve.

4 I'm concerned about also climate change.
5 Although the nuclear power plant was probably built to
6 withstand a 500-year storm and its effects on the
7 Connecticut River, since we have been seeing 100-year
8 storms in this area and in Boston over the last six
9 months, perhaps the infrastructure is indeed not
10 adequate to be worse worst case scenario, the kinds of
11 storms that we perhaps should be anticipating will
12 happen in the future.

13 And therefore, I'm very concerned about
14 dry-cask storage, alongside the Connecticut River
15 which flows through Massachusetts and Connecticut to
16 the Long Island Sound and just the idea that nuclear
17 radioactivity could be carried by that water all the
18 way to Long Island Sound should give us great pause.
19 I believe we have to take responsibility right now for
20 the effect that we are having because we are already
21 seeing its effects upon our children and
22 grandchildren.

23 We know that mercury in the ponds in the
24 fish that we happily go out and catch on a Sunday
25 already in Vermont, we can't allow the children to eat

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1 more than four ounces a month and we have seen the
2 effects of children who have more than that. The
3 illnesses and cancers and neurological damage already
4 caused by different kinds of pollutants in Vermont is
5 staggering. We certainly don't need any more.

6 (Off the record.)

7 MS. KAYE: I'm Ellen Kaye. I live in
8 Brattleboro, right on the edge of the evacuation zone,
9 the 10-mile radius of Vermont Yankee. My comments
10 about environmental issues regarding Vermont Yankee
11 that I think should be given serious consideration:
12 (a) maybe the only issue is the waste. We're having
13 an increase in production and a relicensing and a
14 lengthening of the time that Vermont Yankee can
15 operate.

16 What we're getting is more and more waste
17 which we have no way to deal with. That waste is
18 going to last for many, many, many generations. We
19 have no idea what the health effects are going to be.
20 We have no idea what the effects on humans, animals,
21 plant life, everything that makes this place this
22 place. And I am tired of hearing everybody associated
23 with the nuclear power industry and the NRC talk about
24 nuclear power generation without ever addressing
25 waste. So what we have is a hazardous waste dump, a

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1 nuclear waste dump on the banks of the Connecticut
2 River.

3 I'm raising a child here. I hear that
4 cancer rates near the plant are higher than in other
5 places. There's some studies. I hear that Strontium-
6 90 turns up in baby teeth. So this is an experimental
7 thing and we're being experimented on and I don't
8 think it should continue. It should be closed down.
9 We should be looking for safer forms of energy
10 production and we should be conserving.

11 But what I want the NRC to weigh heavily,
12 it's the waste issue, environmentally, and the cancer
13 issue. Are there cancer clusters around nuclear power
14 plants? Are there elevated rates of breast cancer
15 around nuclear power plants? I read reports that say
16 that there are and it is unfair to experiment with a
17 population when these are questions hanging in the
18 air. It's unconscionable.

19 I think that's all I need to say today.

20 (Whereupon, at 7:12 p.m., the public
21 meeting was concluded.)

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