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United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Add =
R. Enoch (RLE)

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Box 12 Colrain, MA 01340
June 18, 2006

Dear NRC members:

I recently attended a scoping meeting at Latchis Theater in Brattleboro, VT about the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant. Everyone who spoke expressed their concerns about the safetly of the aging plant, the dangerous and unsecure way in which the "spent" fuel rods are being stored, as well as general concerns about nuclear power plant safety and storage of nuclear wastes. Those who were employed by Vermont Yankee and their families were the only speakers who felt the plant was safe and necessary, but they did not specifically explain why the facility was safe, how it was being upkept or inspected, or how the nuclear wastes were being safely secured. They merely told about past safety and the fact that it emits less pollution than oil and coal power plants.

The facts show us that huge amounts of pollution are released during the mining and processing of uranium for fuel rods. The facts show that the potential for a terrorist plot to release high levels of radioactivity by bombing fuel rods while in transit or in make-shift storage is the greatest terrorist threat we face in the Northeast. The facts show that security at the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Facility was breached by protesters

(Cover)

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without weapons or planning! The facts show that our region could produce power more cheaply and without any pollution or risk of pollution by starting to install wind towers off shore or in the hills of our region over the next 5 years. The facts show that this region could reduce its power needs significantly by educating people about compact fluorescent bulbs, insulation, heat pumps, more efficient appliances, solar hot water heaters, and hundreds of ways of conserving energy. The mere price of electricity is currently a huge incentive for conservation, but other tax incentives could also help us to reduce our power needs to levels that would allow the Vernon facility to close in 5 years.

Please respond to reason and our concern for the safety of our population, our tourist industry, organic farms, our colleges, and our homes. All these things would be severely and adversely affected by even a small release of nuclear radiation due to human error, aging machinery or pipes, or terrorism. Please help us by closing and decommissioning this facility in 5 or 6 years as originally planned. Please help us reduce the risks to our health and safety instead of increasing them. Please save the Connecticut River from overheating.

many of us are also concerned about the hot water that is being released into the Connecticut River. Studies have shown that the current levels of hot water are harmful and with the 20% "uprate" the temperatures are rising to much higher levels. Why do you want to destroy the ecology of this beautiful river?

Please let our region become an example to the rest of the nation. Many regions are growing in population and energy usage. Our region is stable and able to reduce our useage through conservation. Please let us try. Please give us the incentive to try by closing this nuclear plant by 2012. Please stop saying that we need nuclear power and there is not a cleaner, safer solution. This is untrue in a region like ours where the population is stable, highly educated, and extremely concerned about the risks of ~~an~~ aging nuclear power plants and poorly stored, highly radioactive, "spent" fuel rods. Please listen to our concerns and respond by closing down this plant as planned. Thank you,

Edward Stamas Emma Stamas by [illegible]