

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 08/01/06 EDO CONTROL: G20060650
DOC DT: 06/22/06
FINAL REPLY:

Senator Judd Gregg

TO:

Rathbun, OCA

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** GRN ** CRC NO: 06-0349

Reyes, EDO

DESC:

ROUTING:

Yankee Nuclear Power Plant (Sterling Kenyon)

Reyes
Virgilio
Kane
Silber
Dean
Cyr/Burns
Collins, RI
Schmidt, OCA

DATE: 07/19/06

ASSIGNED TO: CONTACT:

NRR

Dyer

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

JUDD GREGG
NEW HAMPSHIRE

COMMITTEES:

BUDGET, *Chairman*

APPROPRIATIONS

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR
AND PENSIONS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2904

(202) 224-3324

June 22, 2006

OFFICES:

125 NORTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NH 03301
(603) 225-7115

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60 PLEASANT STREET
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(603) 752-2604

16 PEASE BOULEVARD
PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801
(603) 431-2171

Mr. Dennis Rathbun, Director
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Congressional Affairs
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Rathbun:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter from Sterling Kenyon, a constituent of mine from Keene, New Hampshire. Mr. Kenyon is concerned that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is allowing the Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in Vermont to stay open under unsatisfactory conditions. He has attached an opinion essay from the Keene Sentinel expressing his view point.

I would appreciate your consideration and attentiveness to this matter. Thank you in advance for your prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Judd Gregg
U. S. Senator

JG/ras
Enclosure

U.S. Sen Judd Gregg

Keene, N.H.

May 27/06

Dear Senator Gregg,

This is a very serious matter which should be dealt with now. Our very lives may depend on it. I cannot imagine the state of Vermont being this irresponsible.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Stirling E. Kenyon

RECEIVED
MAY 30 2006

Vermont Yankee is a looming disaster

To The Sentinel:

Human sacrifice is among the less palatable aspects of human history. It was practiced in ancient times by the Canaanites and the Phoenicians among others, and by the Aztecs and Incas of the New World.

It was intended to propitiate the gods so that they would grant prosperity to the sacrificers. The biblical story of Jacob and his obedient willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac until God told him to sacrifice a goat instead was no doubt intended as a lesson against human sacrifice which some pagan religions practiced.

We do not think of it as such, but a form of human sacrifice is being practiced now, right here among us, and we are the potential victims.

In order to reap large profits, a firm headquartered in Louisiana has bought, no doubt at a bargain price, the aging, decrepit and accident-prone Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant just as it has reached the end of its intended life and is due to be shut down.

The company intends to not only keep it operating long after its expiration date, but is increasing its power by 20 percent.

This is like adding a supercharger to a truck that is ready for the scrap heap with worn brakes, suspension, and steering and running it 20 percent faster than it ever ran before.

It is doing this with the blessing and approval of the NRC, the government agency that is supposed to be watching out for our safety.

It is true that if this heap finally blows, most of us will probably manage to escape with our lives, but at what cost? A meltdown or near meltdown as happened at Chernobyl and almost happened at Three Mile Island does not cause a massive explosion. It merely spreads radiation over a radius of 50 miles or more, depending on the wind.

Unlike a fire, flood or earthquake, radiation is forever and there can be no returning for many generations. But that's not all. If anyone thinks of collecting insurance and building elsewhere, think again.

Every homeowner and business policy explicitly excludes coverage for nuclear radiation or damage of any sort. Insurance companies are run by hardheaded businessmen and they are not impressed by the blandishments of the power plant operators who tell us how safe the plant is, nor by the approval of the NRC which is more concerned with the profits of the nuclear industry than with the safety of the public.

Nor would anyone be able to sue the power plant. A law known as the Price Anderson Act forbids that. It is not even certain, with banks in the radiation zone being off limits to tellers and personnel, how we would

even access our savings and financial assets. Most of us would become homeless paupers.

What seems hardest to fathom is the lack of public outrage at this experiment with an aging plant being done at our peril. Why don't we form an organization to protect ourselves? Where are our state officials on this, and where are our senators and congressman? And where are we, as far as making our voices heard?

Let's call or write our lawmakers and let them know that we don't want to be sacrificial lambs. Of course we need electricity, but supercharging and extending the life of this old turkey is not the way to do it.

Here are some names and addresses:

► Gov. John Lynch, 25 Concord St., Concord, N.H. 03301; phone: 271 2121.

► State Sen. Thomas Eaton, 27 Pleasant Hill Road, Keene, N.H. 03431; phone (Concord): 271-8630

► U.S. Sen. Judd Gregg, 41 Hooksett Road, Manchester, N.H. 03104; phone: 622-7979.

► U.S. Sen. John Sununu, 1589 Elm St., Manchester, N.H., 03101; phone: 647-7500.

► U.S. Rep. Charles Bass, 1 West St., Keene N.H., 03431; phone: 358-4094. (Monday, Wednesday and Friday.)

FRED SLAVIC
Rhododendron Road
Fitzwilliam

Mr. Sterling Kenyon
64 Sullivan St.
Keene, NH 03431-2040