

From: Jackie Lombardo <ucanmailjackie@yahoo.com>
To: "Jack Cushing" <JXC9@nrc.gov>
Date: 9/5/2006 7:29:55 PM
Subject: Lake Anna

I am writing with concerns about Dominion's proposal to build two new nuclear reactors at the North Anna Power Station in central Virginia. Dominion's proposal is not consistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) and would have serious negative impacts on already stressed local and regional water resources. I strongly urge DEQ to deny the CZMA certification.

The North Anna Power Station is already the largest water user in Louisa County, and the proposed reactors will further increase water evaporation from Lake Anna. Lower lake and downstream water levels will threaten lake recreation, downstream fisheries, and drinking water supplies. Dominion asserts that its newly proposed hybrid cooling tower will reduce this increase in water evaporation, but this claim is unfounded. While the hybrid cooling tower will address thermal impacts from the new reactors, it will equal or increase the overall amount of water lost to evaporation.

According to NRC's Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the maximum instantaneous evaporation rate from the proposed third reactor will be 37.2 cubic feet per second for most of the year (EC mode) and 25.7 cfs in drought conditions (MWC mode). Both rates are equal or higher than the maximum evaporation rate for the originally proposed once-through system, which was 26 cfs. NRC asserts the evaporation rates will be lower than the above numbers, but the reasons for this are unexplained and the analysis questionable.

I strongly urge DEQ to look into these matters and hold Dominion to the highest standards necessary to protect local water. Specifically, DEQ should require Dominion to use a dry cooling tower for the third reactor. A dry cooling tower system - as is already planned for the fourth reactor - would eliminate both thermal and evaporative impacts from the project, and would not be an unreasonable burden on Dominion.

DEQ should also note that existing nuclear reactors at North Anna will generate at least 40 metric tons of highly radioactive waste per year, all of which will be stored on site for some time to come. No successful long-term solution for containing nuclear waste exists, and it is presently leaking and contaminating soil and ground water at several sites. Although DEQ is not specifically charged with dealing with this waste, it should be aware that NRC has essentially ignored the issue of waste in the ESP process. If there is a problem in the future, this waste will seriously affect central Virginia's water and air.

I appreciate the public meeting held by DEQ August 16th and hope that DEQ will seriously consider these comments in its review of Dominion's proposal.

Sincerely,
Jackie Lombardo

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Federal Register Notice: 71 FR 39372
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From: Jackie Lombardo <ucanmailjackie@yahoo.com>

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"Jack Cushing" <JXC9@nrc.gov>

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