

**From:** <snigjihj@cox.net>  
**To:** <JXC9@NRC.GOV>, <elirons@deq.virginia.gov>  
**Date:** Fri, Aug 11, 2006 2:49 PM  
**Subject:** Lake Anna

Ms. Ellie Irons  
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
629 East Main street, Richmond, Va. 23219

Mr. Jack Cushing,  
NORTH\_ANNA\_COMMENTS@NRC.GOV  
Environmental Project Manager for the North Anna ESP Site Application  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington D.C. 20555

Dear Ms. Irons; Dear Mr. Cushing;

Since my Air Force assignment to the Pentagon in 1976 my wife and I and our family have enjoyed the use of Lake Anna. My initial introduction to Lake Anna was with the Boy Scouts in September 1976 during a weekend camping and canoeing outing. I was so impressed with the Lake that my family and I spent the following weekend camping at Lake Anna where we had a great time swimming, boating and just having fun. It was at that time that my wife and I decided, assuming my Air Force assignments and financial considerations allowed, to purchase property at the Lake. As fortune would have it my assignments allowed my family to remain in Virginia and for me complete 8 of my last 9 years in the service in the Northern Virginia area. As a result we were able to purchase our Lake Anna property in 1982 and are now in the process of completing the building of the house we dreamed of back in 1976.

While Lake Anna, at least on the Lagoon side, has remained a beautiful and relatively peaceful place during these 30 years changes have taken place. While I might be wrong as I do not have 30 years of hard facts the key change has been the Lake's water quality. That change has been the summer water temperature. In 1977 when we first had the opportunity to use the Lagoon or warm side of the Lake the August water, while a little warm, was refreshing and fun to swim in. However, with each year since about 1985 the water temperature at our property area (Dike 2 area, down stream from Elk Creek just before Canal 2) seems to get hotter quicker, reaching the upper 90's and low 100's in July. At the end of our dock the water is about 10 feet deep and the water temperature at the three foot level at the times I have taken the temperature has reached 103 degrees. If it is 103 degrees at my dock what is the temperature of the water where it is discharged from the reactor back into the lake. The 103 degree temperature is neither refreshing nor enjoyable and from the information and knowledge I have acquired is unhealthy if allowed to linger which is the situation. We have weeks of water temperature exceeding 100 degrees. There have also been other changes such as the "Skunk Weed" that has invaded the Lake in our area, reported fish kills and reports of children coming down with ear aches at a higher rate than the norm after swimming on our side of the Lake. Please allow me to tell you that the "Skunk Weed", which hugs the shore line, is lousy under feet and stinks "to high heaven".

So what is my purpose in writing to you at this time? We need your help to ensure that Lake Anna like so many of water areas does not decline any further and in fact is improved. Let's first start by naming the Lagoon side of the lake correctly, it is not a Waste Heat Treatment Facility (WHTF). This makes it sound like raw sewage is being treated. The truth is that this part of the lake is a "Cooling Lagoon" as well as a water recreation area. As such it should be under the over sight of the Commonwealth and where appropriate the Federal Government. Also let's make sure that with the approval of reactors 3 and 4 that we

ensure that there are no new adverse affects to the Lake. The design of these new reactors must include the best technology to ensure high efficiency, safety, and environmental protection to include the water quality/level of Lake Anna.

Please keep in mind when you make your decisions about Lake Anna that there thousands of Virginia citizens depending on you for their protection.

Sincerely,  
John J. Higgins

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