

From: "Bobbi Angell" <bangell@sover.net>
To: <VermontYankeeEIS@nrc.gov>
Date: Fri, Feb 2, 2007 4:46 PM
Subject: comments on GEIS draft

12/21/06

71FR76704

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Comments submitted regarding draft report: Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and GEIS, presented in Brattleboro, VT 31 January 2007

I am here tonight with a real feeling of embarrassment and shame that as a responsible adult member of this community I am once again, by my presence, complicit in this process of charade, this circus of obfuscation, this shell game without end to which you, the NRC, write the rules. One simple clear question stands front and center and towering over these interminable Kafkaesque theatre sessions: Would sensible caring people choose to live with a massive fused bomb in their midst which, should it ever explode, would destroy lives, homes, lands and the future of all for many generations? Of course the answer is a resounding **NO**. And yet for 35 years we have been manipulated and forced into accepting that very condition by you hired men of power who write the rules, mark the cards, set the time clock and at the end of the day, pack up and ride far away to live comfortably distant from the consequences of your machinations.

We live in a society that is so sensitized to danger that report of a knife on a school ground or a screwdriver in an airport will shut down the entire system. Yet the shockingly vulnerable fuel pool at VT Yankee with enough potential radiation release to make uninhabitable this entire 3-state region sits within sight of 2 school systems, sits on the very banks of our only river system which carries an entire multi-state watershed south to our neighbors, sits on the unstable tectonic fault line that once divided two separate continental land masses, and, finally, sits in the very gateway to the economy of all points north. And as always, the NRC and the power industry find this acceptable.

Sitting on my doorstep and considering the nuclear reactor and its endless spew of deadly radioactive waste, it is easy to enclose the scenario in one simple metaphor – that of some loathsome hellsprung beast risen to paradise to sow ruination. As a logical pragmatist who loves and honors this paradise my response is simple – **Shut it down, secure the waste, decommission it and never build another**. But you, the NRC, the hired guns of a very profitable industry, don't view the issues from the same perspective and you bend your full energy towards making the beast ever bigger and giving it life without end. To this purpose you stifle my voice and power as a citizen by building a regulatory maze of ever shifting aisles with no attainable objective except your own. Where logic degrades a straight continuous line of purpose that ends at **Shut it down**, you the NRC break that line into an infinite number of points, each of which must be dealt with as a separate battle, each which must be fought in endless tedious meetings and hearings that break the will and finances of committed individuals and groups who fight for the future of community, home, neighbor and child. Against all sanity you have designed a glide path for this tired old reactor to increase its output and waste generation by 20% and extend its life for another 20 years.

As has been the case over the past 35 years, our comments and concerns regarding issues will be voiced with absolute sincerity but have no chance of achieving amelioration of your pre-determined result. The 670 page environmental impact statement will be

absorbed into the dull gray labyrinth of your calculated process, calculated to render us powerless and useless against your total control of the outcome. When I read recently that the NRC had ruled that guarding against the threat of a terrorist air attack on the reactor was the responsibility of the Dept. of Defense, thus rendering Entergy as not accountable for efforts in that direction, I knew the shell game had just been ramped up a few notches. Entergy cannot protect the exposed fuel pool against air attack; the Dept of Defense will not protect the fuel pool against air attack, so the NRC states that the core containment structure is of a robust nature to withstand most air attacks and totally ignores the real danger, the fuel pool.

Is there anything that could get you to care more about the many people whose lives and future you hold in the palm of your hand and less about the industry robber barons who own you as shield and armor?

Jim Herrick
Marlboro, VT