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NRR Received Date: 10/11/2007

From:
Stanley LaCrosse

TACs:
MD6967

To:
Pat Milano

*** YELLOW ***

For Signature of:

Routing:

Dyer
Wiggins
Grobe
Boger
NRR Mail Room

Description:

Letter expressing concern about the storage of the waste spent fuel rods at Kewaunee Power Plant.

Assigned To:

LPLE

Contact:

MILANO, PATRICK D

Special Instructions:

Mailed Round Trip, for pick up on 10/12 @ 10:00

Thursday September 27, 2007

**To: Pat Milane
1-301-415-2102**

From: Stanley H. LaCrosse 1-920-776-1009
Former Town of Carlton Chairman
Kewaunee, Wisconsin
N1460 Highway B
Kewaunee, WI 54216

Home phone: 1-920-388-2910
(if no answer please leave a message, thank you)

September 27, 2007

Mr. Pat Milane,

I am sending you this short letter in regard to our telephone conversation yesterday. I am also sending you the information and materials we discussed which I would like to share with you. The Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant was built in 1974, and all the spent fuel rods since its operation began are stored in a waste pool right in the plant. We were informed the facility at Yucca Mountain will not be ready to accept and store spent fuel until approximately 2017 and that the possibility exists that there may not be enough space available for the quantity of waste from the entire nation once it is operational. Therefore, the waste currently kept in the town of Carlton may continue to be stored here indefinitely. The Dominion Resources Services, Inc. representative(s) "convinced" select members of our Town Board into issuing them a building permit to construct dry cast storage against the wishes of the townspeople and from my understanding with limited outside knowledge.

The town of Carlton lost the valuation of the land where the plant stands when it was purchased all those years ago. There had been thirteen sets of farm buildings and/or homes and one thousand acres of land which were on the towns tax roll until that time. Right now our property taxes are higher than surrounding townships, and I am told that Wisconsin is the only state in which the utility tax leaves the municipality where the utility plant is actually located.

If it is in your power at all to help out town in any way it would be appreciated. Our town has stored the spent fuel rods for over thirty years and who knows for how much longer. If the Department of Energy does pay any money to Dominion (Kewaunee plant) would there be any way to "freeze" that action until some understanding is reached as to sharing said compensation with the residents of Carlton.

Tuesday July 10, 2007
Fax: 920-776-1009

I have sent this letter to our officials on behalf of the citizens and taxpayers from the Town of Carlton, in Kewaunee County. State and Federal officials need to take a good look at an alternative storage facility in order to keep the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant in operation. The storage the plant has in existence will soon be depleted; by the year 2011 operation may have to be suspended until a suitable solution is found. We have come to know that nuclear energy is the most affordable, cleanest, most reliable, and safest way to achieve the emission savings that our nation has to strive for. That is why it is important to address this matter with the attention it deserves.

The nuclear plants new owners, Dominion, recently came to the town meeting seeking approval to construct a dry storage facility for spent fuel rods on site. This is due to the fact that the pools which currently store the spent rods are reaching their maximum capacity. It had been promised by the Wisconsin Public Service that the rods were to be moved to Yucca Mountain, yet they are unfairly being forced to be stored in the town without being fully compensated. The nuclear plant has paid millions, if not billions, of dollars to the Federal Government over more than a 30 year span for a place to store the spent rods. And yet, regrettably, nothing has ever happened. Every spent rod since operation began in 1974 is still stored at the plant site.

The nuclear plant also pays over \$6 million in utility taxes to the state of Wisconsin every year. Wisconsin is the only state in which that utility tax does not stay in the municipality where the plant is located. Why is that? All property owners in the town of Carlton are currently paying full taxes as well, and deserve to be compensated.

The dry storage location needs serious consideration. If nuclear power is less expensive than coal or natural gas, as well as cleaner, all the more important to work our hardest to maintain operation of the Kewaunee nuclear plant. We need our State and US Senators as well as Representatives to help do what is necessary and fair for the property owners here in the town of Carlton. The need for this dry storage is present and understood; let us work together for the benefit of everyone to create a workable solution.

A concerned citizen,

Stanley H. LaCrosse
Former Town Chairman

Wednesday July 11th 2007

Dear Mr. Hipp,

On behalf of the taxpayers and residents in our town, thank you for your form letter "from the President". We are very disappointed, and quite sure the President himself never read our letter or even heard about the situation. Telling us it's simply a state issue is hard to swallow with the information we have been given. The Federal government received \$1.7 million each year over the last 30 years to find and construct and place to store the spent fuel rods from not just this but many nuclear plants, we believe that would qualify the Federal government as involved in this matter. Promises were made about moving the waste to Yucca Mountain, empty promises, which leads to the question, where does that money go? The waste is still on site with little hope of being moved any time soon.

Dominion Resources Services, Inc., the owners of the nuclear plant, will need to put up a dry storage facility for the spent rods, the current space is running out. Every spent rod produced since operation began in 1974 is still stored in a pool within the plant in our small town of Carlton in Kewaunee, Wisconsin. All the people in our town are now fed up! Our population may only be 1013, but that does not mean anyone can just push us around or walk all over us without a fight. It is not fair at all! The focus needs to be shifted back to where it belongs within our government, not overseas, but right here at home.

The President has been campaigning for more nuclear plants because it is the safest, cheapest, most efficient power source, he fails to mention that the people who live near these plants will always live with their waste next door as well. People need to be educated about the benefits of nuclear power as well as the real world situations that can and will arise surrounding such plants. It shouldn't be a huge problem to move the spent rods, the safety procedures around the nuclear plants are very strict and there shouldn't be such resistance to the waste being shipped through any one place.

Our town cannot afford attorneys like the ones utility companies have, so we can only do all that we can with what we've got and hope someone listens and cares enough to help us out where they can. We just want to be property tax-free. You can compare the Town of Carlton in Kewaunee County, Wisconsin to other municipalities in all other states which have nuclear power plants to find out what we are telling you is indeed true. No one wants to listen, so we are contacting local and national television stations to expose our senators and representatives who are not helping or even listening to us. Their negligence is disgusting and will not be ignored! We need our President to see and understand our concerns, we look forward to an answer from you.

Respectfully,
Stanley H. LaCrosse

Former Town Chair and
Concerned Citizens Group Advisor

We the undersigned believe that if Dominion (Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant) is allowed to construct the dry storage facility on site which is being proposed the land owners of the town of Carlton should be compensated accordingly. Meaning until the spent rods are moved to an alternate location, only then would it be fair if compensation were to cease.

Name	Address	Kewaunee	Town	Date
Carol Papillon	E4095 Sandy Bay Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	4/25/07
Juste Smith	E4494 Old Settlers Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	04/26/07
Ruth Papillon	N2302 Co. B Kewaunee	Kewaunee	Carlton	4-27-07
Wanda Ferguson	N277 Woodside Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	4-29-07
Mike D. Hall	E2863 Old Settlers Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	5-23-07
Catherine R. Allen	E2863 Old Settlers Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	5-23-07
James H. Cox	E2863 Old Settlers Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	5-23-07
Michael D. Huber	E2863 Old Settlers Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	5-23-07
James H. Huber	E2863 Old Settlers Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	5-23-07
Ronald S. Larson	N7050 1/2 Petera rd.	Kewaunee	Carlton	5-23-07
Clayton Sorenson	N2050 St Petera Rd	Kewaunee	Carlton	5-23-07
Dr. Daniel J. Jensen	300 Mueller St Apt 11	Waukegan	Illinois	5-23-07
Becca Hedstrom	E2574 Corda	Kewaunee	WI	5/23/07
Dr. Hedstrom	E2574 Corda	Kewaunee	WI	5/23/07
Elly Haglund	N2195 Church Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5/23/07
Jodi Haglund	N2302 Church Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Tom Haglund	N2302 Church Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Richard Dettin	N2341 Church Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Lyle Dennis	N2341 Church Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Kathleen G. Sullivan	N2475 Church Road	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Cliff Robinson	N2336 St Petera Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Charles Huber	E3863 Toulon Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5/23/07
Donna Kohn	E3063 Toulon Rd	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Robert Atomp	Carlton	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Gene E. Tremel	Town of Carlton	Kewaunee	WI	5/23/07
Paul Foster	Town of Carlton	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Dean Foster	Church of Carlton	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Herb Mueller	N2384 CTY RR B	Kewaunee	WI	54216
Kaylene D. Smith	3432 CT I	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Janette Van Dierdonk	E3432 Co J Carlton	Kewaunee	WI	5-23-07
Kilmahub Kahne	N181 Miller	Fish Mills	WI	5/24/07
Karen W. K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	54216 5/25/07
Tom W. K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	" " " "
Paul W. K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	" " " "
Nancy K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	5/26/07
Paul W. K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	5/26/07
Tom W. K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	5/26/07
Paul W. K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	5/26/07
Paul W. K. Norman	Norman Rd	Carlton	WI	5-26-07

We the undersigned believe that if Dominion (Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant) is allowed to construct the dry storage facility on site which is being proposed the land owners of the town of Carlton should be compensated accordingly. Meaning until the spent rods are moved to an alternate location, only then would it be fair if compensation were to cease.

Name	Address	Town	Date
Carol LaFrance	N1249 Clark B	Carlton	5/16/07
Wayne Schmidt	N1315 Towel Hill Rd	Carlton	5-16-07
Debra J Schmidt	" " " "	"	5/16-07
Tom Schmidt	N1325 Towel Hill Rd	Carlton	5/16/07
Donald Baker	N 3984 Hwy B	Carlton	5-18-07
Peter Mitchell	N4114 City B	Carlton	5-18-07
Ruth Mitchell	N4114 City B	Carlton	5-18-07
Ann Mitchell	N4114 City B	Carlton	5-18-07
Sam Ribn	N650 City Rd. B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Ed Ribn	N650 City Rd. B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Matthew Maki	N346 City Rd B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Matthew Maki	N346 City Rd B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
David Maki	E2885 Holly A.	Kewaunee	5-20-07
David Maki	" "	"	5-20-07
David Maki	N166 City Rd. B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Michael Schmidt	N166 City B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Michael Schmidt	N162 Hwy B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Carl Chisney	N151 City B	Jacks Mills	5-20-07
Robert Chisney	N151 City B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Tammy J. Scharet	N145 City B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Patricia Barr	N145 City Rd B	Kewaunee	5-20-07
Earl Bruemmer	516 Mill Ln.	"	"
Leona Bruemmer	Mill Ln	"	"
David A. Schuch	E3200 Hwy B	Carlton	5-20-07
Katherine A. Schuch	E3200 Hwy B	Kewaunee/Carlton	5-20-07
Wendy M. Schuch	E3200 Hwy B	Kewaunee/Carlton	5-20-07
Emmanuel M. Schuch	E3200 Hwy B	Kewaunee/Carlton	5-20-07
Robert W. Summit	E2922 City B	Kewaunee WI	54216
William Summit	E2922 City B	Kewaunee WI	54216
Dale Blang	N676 Hwy B	Kewaunee WI	54216
Sylvia Parma	E3276 Hwy B	Kewaunee WI	54216
Andy Langer	N921 Norman Rd	Kewaunee WI	54216
Tom Schuch	N676 Hwy B	Kewaunee WI	54216
Carol Rife	N3157 Sandy Bay Rd	Kewaunee WI	54216 5-22-07
Mark Rife	N1270 City Rd B	Kewaunee WI	54216
Rae Bennett	N270 City Rd B	Kewaunee WI	54216
Donna Bennett	E4007 Sandy Bay Rd.	Kewaunee WI	54216
Way Rife	E4074 Sandy Bay Rd.	Kewaunee WI	54216

OK

We the undersigned believe that if Dominion (Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant) is allowed to construct the dry storage facility on site which is being proposed the land owners of the town of Carlton should be compensated accordingly. Meaning until the spent rods are moved to an alternate location, only then would it be fair if compensation were to cease.

Name	Address	Town	Date
Steve T Busch	N914 Lakeside Dr	Carlton	5-2-07
Jim Krusecher	E2615 Nuclear Rd	Carlton	9-2-07
Kara Wilkens	N1002 Cnty Rd AB	Carlton	5-2-07
Ed Auerbach	E4267 Hwy G	Carlton	5.3.07
Bill Johnson	N1597 Norman Rd	Carlton	5-3-07
Doree Nuttall	E2749 Sandy Bay Rd	Carlton	5-4-07
Michelle Rogers	E2826 Tisdale Mill	"	5-4-07
James A. Chapman	1815 City B Kewaunee	Carlton	5-5-07
Joseph S. Strick	N1102 City G	Carlton	5-5-07
Homer J. Simpson	N1109 county G	Carlton	5-5-07
Cecyl LaCrosse	N1533 Norman Rd	Carlton	5-16-07
James Chapman	N1444 Norman Rd	Carlton	5-17-07
Charles H. Hinkley	E3778 City G	Kewaunee	5-17-07
Myra Baum	E3334 Bauer Ln	Kew.	5-17-07
Norm Baum	E3334 Bauer Ln	Kew.	5-17-07
John	E3349 City G	"	5-17-07
Jason White	N1446 Townhall Rd	Kew	5-17-07
Paulie Jankala	N1445 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	5-17-07
Robert Smith	11698 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	5-17-07
William L. Smith	11698 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	5-17-07
Jim Howard	N1926 Town Hall Rd	Kew	5-17-07
James Schmeling	N1712 Town Hall Rd	Kew Carlton	5-17-07
Melinda Cheney	N1371 Norman Rd	Kew Carlton	5-17-07
George Meyer	11807 St. Peter's Rd	Carlton	5-17-07
Harold J. Hawronitz	N2195 Church Rd	CARLTON	5-18-07
John J. Gault	E2612 R. City	Carlton Kewaunee, WI 54216	
Mike DeWitt	E2695 Rocky + Kewaunee	54216 Carlton	
Douglas A. Rossin	N2474 Church Rd	Kewaunee WI 54216 Carlton	
Ann Rossin	N2474 Church Rd	Kew. WI 54216 Carlton	5-18-07
Doree F. Rossin	N2474 Church Rd	Kewaunee WI 54216 Carlton	5-18-07
John Smith	E2723 Townline Rd	Kewaunee WI 54216 Carlton	5-18-07
Angel Rude	E2723 Townline Rd	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07
John Taylor	2728 Hwy	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07
Don Johnson	E2739 Hwy	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07
Samuel S. Sures	N1758 City B	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07
Michael Peterson	N2833 City B	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07
Julie Johnson	N1933 City B	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07
John	N1932 City B	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07
Barbara Hartig	N1932 City B	Kewaunee WI 54216	5-18-07

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Name	Address	Town	Date
Loise LaPasse	N1460 Hwy B Kauw.	Carlton	4-26-07
Samantha Williams	N1460 Hwy B Kauw	54216 Carlton	4/26/07
John F. Patz	N218 Schellert Lane Kauw	54228 Carlton	4/26/07
Patricia J. Curran	E2767 Nuclear Rd	Kewaunee Carlton	4/26/07
Don L. Schlerf	N1269 Norman Rd.	Carlton	4-26-07
William Shebesta	E2764 Old RR	Fresh Mills	4-26-07
Caroline Dwyer	E3473 Hwy Rd F	Kewaunee	4-26-07
William J. Agnew	E2702 CT RD B3	Dunsmuir	4-26-07
David L. Curran	N1623 Town Hall Rd	Kewaunee Carlton	4-26-07
John L.	N1623 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	4-26-07
Mike Hagan	E3104 Cty Rd Kewaunee	Carlton	4-26-07
Mike Hagan	N1345 Rangeland Rd Kauw.	Franklin	4-28-07
James Almit	3709 E. Co Hwy B3 Two Rivers	Michigan	4-29-07
Brian Katch	E3927 Sandy Bay Rd	Kewaunee	4-30-07
Kenneth Brantley	N146 Hwy B		4-30-07
Sumner Metz	N1094 Hwy B	Kewaunee	4/30/07
Christine O'Connell	E2912 Sandy Bay Rd	Kewaunee	4-30-07
John Hill	E2885 HOLD/DANE	Kauw.	4-30-07
Melvin K. Keller	E3716 CTY A	Kauw	5-1-07
Bill Helling	3709 E. Co Hwy B3 Two Rivers		5/2/07
Mark Sievert	Hwy B N532	Kewaunee	5/2-107
Angie Mueller	N1915 St. Peter's	Kewaunee	5-2-07
Sharon J. Dierker	N2125 St. Peter's Rd	Kewaunee	5-2-07
Robert J. Schmitt	N6103 St. Peter's Rd	Kewaunee	5-2-07
John Melton	N2102 St. Peter's Rd	Kewaunee	5-2-07
Janet J.	E3055 CTY	Kewaunee WI	5/2/07
John J. Wotter	E3055 CTY	Kewaunee WI	5/2/07
Nicholas J. Mothman	J Kauw		5-2-07
Matthew J. Jager	Carlton		5-5-07
William J. Fuchs	Carlton		5-8-07
Leona Audite	Carlton		5-8-07
Barbara B. Demmer	Carlton		5-8-07
Barbara Kuhn	2609 Hwy A - Carlton		5-8-07
R. L.	E2182 Carlton		5-8-07
Betty J. Congine	N2327 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	5-8-07
Patricia J. Knipp	N2314 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	5-8-07
Daniel Huber	N2065 St. Peter Road	Carlton	5-8-07
Dean Huber	N2065 St. Peter Road	Carlton	5-8-07
William J. Gulderson	N1316 Hwy A	CARLTON	5-8-07

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Name	Address	Town	Date
Brian Zornick	N612 Lakeside Rd	Carlton	05-09-07
Mark Dotschka	11273 Trenchard Rd	Carlton	5/11/07
Katherine Schless	N1184 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	5-12-07
S. P. KUNESH JR	N666 City Rd AB	CARLTON	5/12/07
Bob Peltz	N667 Norman Rd	Carlton	5/12/07
Adam Nichols	N1445 Town Hall Rd	Carlton	5-14-07
David M. Burt	10001 Dlx Ln.	Carlton	5-16-07
Carl King	1391 Norman Rd	Carlton	5-17-07
SAUBRA PELWAR	Box 153 Tisch Mills	CARLTON	5-18-07
Lee Rabas	N1245 Rabas Ln.	Carlton	5/18/07
Shawna R Dering	N1002 County Rd AB	Carlton	05/18/07
Vick Meyer	N2332 County Rd AA	Franklin	05/19/07
Michael J. Ladouce	N2225 Hwy	CARLTON	5/19/07
Anton Augustin	E4267 County G	CARLTON	5/20/07
Jeremiah Gandy	E2614 Hwy G	Carlton	5/20/07
Siva Lakshman	E2549 Hwy G/B	Carlton	5-20-07
Henry Bauman	18618 County Road	Dunaway	5/21/07
Steve Wic	E2249 Rd G	Dunaway	5-21-07
Bob Holly	N293 City B	Carlton	5-22-07
Peter Zedek	10001 Dlx Ln	Carlton	5-22-07
Arnold R. R. R. R.	185 Tisch Mill	Carlton	5-22-07
Robert D. R. R. R.	185 Tisch Mill	Carlton	5-22-07
Steve Dainard	E2542 Andy Park Rd	Kewaunee	5/20/07
Andrew Summers	4702 Springfield Ct	MAINTON	5/26/07
Full Family	#5 Mapleview Campground	2009 ^{Spring River} _{Spring River}	5-26-07
Kendy Wilson	E3525 City G	Carlton	5-28-07
Dana Wilson	E3525 City G	Carlton	5-28-07
Laurence J. Gaudin	N1394 Town Hall Rd	Kewaunee	5-28-07
Mildred M. Gaudin	N1394 Town Hall Rd	Kewaunee (Carlton town)	5-28-07
Jane Gaudin	E3765 City G	Kewaunee	5-28-07
John Gaudin	E3765 City G	Kewaunee	5-28-07
John Gaudin	E4039 City G	Kewaunee	5-28-07
Carie Brezinski	823 Cherry Ct	Kewaunee	5-28-07
Lina Lepel	E4193 City Rd G	Kewaunee	5-28-07
Brian Miller	E4193 City Rd G	Kewaunee	5-28-07
Bernadette Lumarye	E4226 County E	Kewaunee	5-28-07
Joseph J. Lumarye	E4226 City G	Kewaunee	5-28-07
Dipon LaCrosse	E2612 City G	Kewaunee	5/28/07

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Name	Address	Town	Date
Kim Mueller	N1199 Hwy 42 Kewaunee WI	Carlton	4/27/07
Ann Mueller	N1199 Hwy 42 Kewaunee, WI	Carlton	5-2-07
Eastern Mueller	N1241 Hwy 42 Kewaunee WI	Carlton	5-2-07
Henry Mueller	N1241 Hwy 42 Kewaunee, WI 54216		4/26/07
Donald Mueller	E4403 City G Kewaunee WI	Carlton	5-5-07
Carol Mueller	N1199 Hwy 42 Kewaunee, WI	Carlton	5-5-07
Steve Mueller	N1199 Hwy 42 Kewaunee, WI	Carlton	5-25-07
Michael Faust	N1293 Hwy 42 Kewaunee WI	Carlton	5-27-07
Lucie Faust	N1293 Hwy 42 Kewaunee WI	Carlton	5-27-07
Ann Faust	E 4260 City G Kewaunee WI		5-28-07
Donald Faust	E 4260 City G Kewaunee WI		5-28-07
Brian Faust	N612 Woodside Rd Kewaunee, WI		05-28-07
Donald Faust	N491 Woodside Rd Kewaunee, WI		5/28/07
Dennis Faust	N491 Woodside Rd Kewaunee, WI		5-28-07
Dorothy Faust	N491 Woodside Rd Kewaunee		5/28/07
Lance Faust	N1460 City B Kewaunee WI		5-29-07
Jeff Lambrecht	N1627 St. Peters Kewaunee WI		5-29-07
Clare Planski	F3283 Sarty Hwy G Kewaunee WI	Carlton	5-29-07
Stanley Faust	N1460 City B Kewaunee	Carlton	5-29-07
Karin Planski	E2672 City G Kewaunee WI	Carlton	5/29/07
Vi Selzer	1204 2nd St. Kewaunee		

Name	Address	Town	Date
JAMES BRODERICK	E 4379 OLD SETTLERS Rd	CARLTON	MAY 22, 07
Gini Broderick	E 4379 Old Settlers Rd.	CARLTON	MAY 22, 07
Donna S. Seill	C 4612 Lake Rd	Kew	MAY 21
TAMMIE A ALBERT	E 4663 LAKERS RD	Kew	MAY 22 07
Ernest Albert	" "	" "	" "
MURLEY KUSTKE	E 4508 Old Settlers	Kew	5/22/07
Charles Kustke	E 4508 Old Settlers Rd	Kew	5/22/07
Sail Kujerinski	E 4352 Old Settlers	Kew	5/22/07
Robert E. Kujerinski	E 4352 Old Settlers Rd	Kew	5/22/07



Stewart Brown - response to Mr Weber's letter aatn: Stewart Brown

From: Stanley LaCrosse <silver_bfarm@yahoo.com>
To: <swb1@nrc.gov>
Date: 09/05/2007 5:59 PM
Subject: response to Mr Weber's letter aatn: Stewart Brown

Mr Brown,

I received a letter from Mr Michael F. Weber in regard to our concerns surrounding the power plant owned and operated by Dominion Resource Inc. and believe some things were misunderstood. I, along with many other members of our community, would like to know as much as we can about the proceedings involving the power plant and any action being taken legally against the federal government. If you have any such pertinent information or can direct me to the correct channels to learn more it would be greatly appreciated. The permit the plant obtained recently was gotten through questionable actions by certain parties and we are simply trying to get all the facts. The lawyer(s) for Dominion seem to think we, the taxpayers of the town, are not entitled to be compensated the money paid over the years since the plant opened, while they are attempting to possibly get back money themselves paid over the years. Our taxes are higher than surrounding areas, and will likely not get any "better" any time soon, it is simply an inquiry on our behalf to try and resolve things, which is not far from what they appear to be doing also.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Stanley H. LaCrosse
N1460 Highway B
Kewaunee WI 54216
920-388-2910 home
920-776-1009 fax

Yahoo! oneSearch: Finally, mobile search that gives answers, not web links.

Mail Envelope Properties (46DF26AE.9C8 : 7 : 31176)

Subject: response to Mr Weber's letter aatn: Stewart Brown
Creation Date 09/05/2007 5:58:44 PM
From: Stanley LaCrosse <silver_bfarm@yahoo.com>

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Press-Gazette

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April 13, 2007

Section: Business

Page: 01B

Residents OK with dry-cask storage

Richard Ryman

ryman@greenbaypressgazette.com

Green Bay Press-Gazette

CARLTON — The details of Dominion Inc.'s plan to begin above-ground storage of spent nuclear fuel at Kewaunee Power Station bothers local residents less than the need to do it in the first place.

"I'm not happy it's going to be out here, but it's not Dominion's fault," said Dave Zellner, Carlton town chairman Thursday during an open house at the Town Hall. "Am I worried about it? No."

Dominion Resources would like to begin construction on a dry-cask storage system by the end of the year. Currently, used nuclear fuel is stored in the power plant's spent-fuel pool, but the pool is running out of room.

Zellner, as did others at the event, criticized the federal government for not helping foot the bill for the additional storage and for not providing a permanent storage location as it pledged to do in 1982. The planned Yucca Mountain nuclear storage site is at least another 10 years from completion, and some question whether it will ever be used.

Rick Philipps, a Carlton resident, said he is concerned that used fuel stored at the site could outlast the plant.

"My concern is what assurance do I have when this plant is decommissioned or Dominion goes out of business?" he said. "Let's say they go out of business. Who's going to pick up when they are not here?"

Francis Wojta of Carlton had a similar concern.

"Sometimes, when you build something, it stays," he said.

Philipps said he has no problem with nuclear power or with Dominion as neighbors, and would not oppose issuing the plant a building permit for the storage facility.

Dave Lohman, project manager for Dominion, said the company soon will apply for a building permit from the town and zoning approval from Kewaunee County.

Bill Matthews, senior vice president of nuclear operations for Dominion, said citizens need to pressure the federal government to provide permanent storage.

"I advise them to keep up the political pressure," he said. "All we can do is propose the solution to store it safely (temporarily)."

Zellner said the cost of building the facility will have to be passed on to consumers by Dominion.

"The federal government should return some of that money they've got," he said.

Zellner predicted the effort to secure a building permit will result in "an interesting couple of months."

Initially, the 3-acre storage facility will house 10 modules, each of which can hold a 75-ton fuel rod storage cask. Each cask will hold 32 fuel assemblies.

The Kewaunee reactor has 121 assemblies, with about one-third being replaced every 18 months. All 121 assemblies are placed into the pool during refueling and those in use for three refueling cycles are permanently removed.

The spent nuclear fuel is radioactive and placed in welded steel canisters designed to be leak-tight. They will be kept in a dry-storage facility consisting of a series of reinforced concrete horizontal storage modules measuring 8.5 feet wide by 14 feet

high, and 20 feet deep with walls and roof up to 4 feet thick.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission-approved storage system is designed by Transnuclear Inc. Its Web site is www.transnuclear.com.

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Kewaunee County, Wisconsin

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Tue, Aug 22, 2006

Tritium detected in groundwater at Kewaunee nuclear plant

By Kevin Boneske

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a notice about the presence of tritium, a radioactive form of hydrogen, being detected Aug. 9 "in small amounts" in groundwater beneath the auxiliary and turbine buildings at the Kewaunee Power Station nuclear plant.

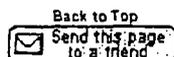
Although the levels detected in four shafts used to measure possible settling beneath the two buildings did not meet the threshold for reporting to the NRC, the plant licensee, Dominion, informed state and local agencies of the situation.

According to the NRC's notice, Dominion also reported no detectable levels of tritium had been found in environmental monitoring wells, both on and off the plant site.

A statement issued by Dominion noted "an enhanced voluntary monitoring program initiated by the nuclear industry" had been used to detect the tritium, which poses no threat to the plant employees or the general public, while the monitoring also found no indication of "that minor level" of tritium beyond "a small area" underneath the plant.

The NRC's on-site inspectors and a radiation specialist have been monitoring the activities of Dominion, which has been investigating possible sources of the tritium.

According to an NRC "fact sheet," tritium can be produced as a by-product of nuclear reactor operations. It is also produced in the atmosphere when cosmic rays collide with air molecules, and is found in "very small or trace amounts" in groundwater throughout the world. Like normal hydrogen, tritium can bond with oxygen to form water, although the resulting combination, known as "tritiated water," is radioactive.





Green campaign says report is a revelation

A published report showing an attorney with Governor Jim Doyle's campaign lobbied the State Elections Board is being called a "revelation" by his Repu...
Thursday, September 21, 2006, 10:29 AM

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Nuke plant water leak poses no threat

NRC investigates tritium laced water at Kewaunee

by Jim Dick

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission says small amounts of tritium in a water leak at the Kewaunee Nuclear Power plant do not pose a health hazard.

The NRC's Jan Strasma says the leak was detected underneath the nuke plant. He says there is measurable tritium, the radio active form of hydrogen, in the water but it's only been found directly beneath the plant and it does not pose as health hazard to the general public, plant workers or the environment.

But Strasma does say they haven't found the source of the leak yet which seems to have subsided. A spokesman for the plant's owner, Dominion in Virginia, says they are going over their records to see if there were any thing unusual in the past that would indicate why the tritium-laced water is there.

Both the NRC and Dominion says no contamination has been found outside of the plant where it seems to be confined. Investigators continue to search for the source of the water. Dominion says the amounts of tritium in the water were small and were not found in any source of drinking water.

AUDIO: Jim Dick reports (:58 MP3)

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Posted August 16, 2006

Tritium found in water under nuclear power plant

Isotope likely isn't dangerous

By Richard Ryman
 rryman@greenbaypressgazette.com

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CARLTON — Dominion Inc. says it found a small amount of tritium in samples of water taken from under the Kewaunee Power Station, and that the discovery poses no threat to public health.

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Rick Zuercher, manager of nuclear public affairs for Richmond, Va.-based Dominion, said a cup of water a day containing the concentration of tritium found in the sample would be equal to eating a banana a day.

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Tritium is a naturally occurring isotope of hydrogen and is also produced by nuclear reactor operations. It is commonly found in water and generally is not considered hazardous. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, tritium is one of the least dangerous radionuclides because it emits very weak radiation and leaves the body relatively quickly.

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Zuercher said the company has a team on site looking for the source of the tritium, which was found in water under the plant. He said the plant is routinely checked for settling and, as part of a voluntary program by the nation's nuclear industry, water found there was checked.

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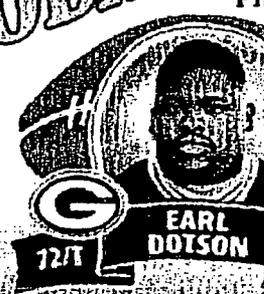
"It could be a number of sources," he said. "It was a very small amount. We reported this to the state and to Manitowoc and Kewaunee counties."

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Kewaunee Power Sta

- Location: Carlton, 9 miles Kewaunee
- Generation: One reactor 1 megawatts
- Reactor type: Pressurized
- Employees: About 550
- Date of commercial operation: 1974
- License expires: 2013
- Ownership: Dominion Energy subsidiary of Dominion Res

Zuercher said tritium had not migrated to drinking water sources, which are monitored.

"We do know what we have that goes off site," he said.

The Nuclear Energy Institute, the policy organization of the nuclear industry, adopted proactive tritium elevated levels of the isotope were found at nuclear plants in Illinois and New York.

"The tritium was not a dangerous situation. It was the fact it went unreported and it surprised people incidents that prompted the guidelines.

He said the Nuclear Regulatory Commission does not have tritium monitoring rules.

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Kewaunee Plant Shut Down. Platts Commodity News (9/5) reported, "Dominion's 574-MW Kewaunee nuclear power plant is shut down, the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission said Tuesday morning in its reactor status report. The plant near Green Bay, Wisconsin, was at full power Friday morning but was shut down over the weekends and remains out of service Tuesday morning. There is no event report filed with the NRC giving a cause for the outage."

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Neighbors weather nuclear plant leak

Trace radiation poses no threat, officials say

By **Paul Brinkmann**

pbrinkma@greenbaypressgazette.com August 26, 2006

Louise Ihlenfeldt, a retired dairywoman, lives just down the road from the Kewaunee Power Station. Over the years, she has been such a good neighbor that she was photographed for the nuclear industry's advertisements.

So when she learned about a radiation leak under the plant, Ihlenfeldt gave her usual answer: "I haven't had any problems. That doesn't bother me."

But even Ihlenfeldt stopped short when considering the possibilities of radiation moving off the site. She drinks well water.

"How come they haven't come to test my well?" Ihlenfeldt said.

The plant announced last week it found an elevated level of radioactive particles called tritium in the ground near the building foundation. The radiation is higher than the level deemed OK for drinking water by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, but plant employees and the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission say it doesn't pose a risk to human health. There is no evidence the radiation has moved off the site.

Some neighbors and industry watchers think the leak could be a sign of the plant's age. Others say they aren't worried.

The plant has a safe record since opening in 1974. It has received top ratings in all categories from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. But it has encountered trouble, including a 261-day shutdown in 1995 for corrosion in generation tubes.

This April, the plant was put on an alert status for the first time in 20 years for a small water leak in a non-nuclear, service water system. But plant officials insisted there were no emissions of radioactive materials beyond normal levels



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Louise Ihlenfeldt sits Friday in her home near the Kewaunee Power Station. Ihlenfeldt is so sure of the safety of nuclear energy that she participated in an industry national campaign. B.A. Rupert/Press Gazette

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[Graphic: Nuclear plants cited for tritium contamination](#)

What's happening?

The Kewaunee Power Station discovered radioactive water (tritium) below the building foundation. A handful of other nuclear facilities have reported similar problems after a new testing program started this year. The plant found a radiation measurement of 103,000 picocuries per liter. (A curie is a unit used to measure radioactivity. A picocurie is one-trillionth of a curie.) The federal standard for drinking water is 20,000 picocuries per liter.

What's the issue?

Plant officials and the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission say the leak is a serious concern and they are investigating the cause, but it doesn't pose a risk to human health and hasn't been detected in monitoring

associated with plant operations.

Donn Nygaard bought his home three miles away after the nuclear plant was built. His home has a commanding view of the reactor dome.

"You look at it every day. Of course, you think about it sometimes, how safe it is," Nygaard said.

He said the recent announcement of tritium leakage makes him think about the plant's age. It is licensed until 2013.

"At least they're monitoring and staying on top of it," Nygaard said.

The radiation discovery is part of a national sweep of nuclear plants prompted by trouble at the Braidwood Nuclear Plant in Illinois. In that case, tritium contaminated groundwater and drinking water. In Kewaunee, however, no drinking water is believed to be involved.

Ihlenfeldts have farmed in the town of Carlton since 1859. Louise Ihlenfeldt and one of her cows were pictured in a 1993 ad for the U.S. Council for Energy Awareness.

She no longer milks cows. But when she did, the plant owners would test the milk regularly for radiation.

The current owners, Dominion Resources Inc. of Virginia, still test her tap water every three months. They also test soil, crops, air, lake water and fish in Lake Michigan in a 10-mile radius around the plant. The facility regularly discharges low levels of radioactive particles into the air and lakewater.

According to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, none of the environmental tests have ever shown a level of concern for off-site radiation.

The power plant is a big employer for Carlton, six miles south of Kewaunee on the Lake Michigan shoreline. Ihlenfeldt's children have worked at the plant.

Town Chairman David Zellner dismisses any real concern about the tritium leak.

"It seems like people in Green Bay are more worried about this plant than we are," Zellner said. "The people I've talked to have no problems with what was found underneath the plant."

The plant took several measurements of underground water from holes that are normally used to measure settling in the foundation.

When the plant announced its discovery of radiation Aug. 11, Dominion officials strove to put the radiation level in context to ease public fears. The resulting comparison: Drinking a cup of water a day with the concentrations discovered would be equal to eating a banana a day. Bananas have some natural radiation because they contain potassium.

wells around the area. Some neighbors and industry watchers think the leak could be a sign of the plant's growing age. Others say they aren't worried.

What is tritium?

Tritium is basically a radioactive isotope of hydrogen. It occurs in nature in low concentrations. Lower-energy beta radiation from tritium cannot penetrate human skin, so tritium is only dangerous if inhaled or ingested.

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Jan Strasma, a commission spokesman in Chicago, confirmed that tritium is naturally occurring, but he said levels found at Kewaunee can only be attributed to the plant.

"There was a leak. Certainly, we can conclude it's not a major leak," Strasma said.

Other plants have found higher levels of radiation than Kewaunee. Tests at the closed San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station in California showed levels 16 times higher than allowed in drinking water.



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Doyle aide met utility executives

Nuclear plant sale inquiry to include discussion

By THOMAS CONTENT
tcontent@journalsentinel.com

Posted: Aug. 24, 2006

Gov. Jim Doyle's chief of staff met with executives of a utility that was seeking state approval for the purchase of the Kewaunee nuclear power plant, a utility spokesman confirmed Thursday - a disclosure that is to become part of an investigation into whether politics played a role in the eventual sale of the plant.

Advertisement It's the first time that the name of Susan Goodwin, Doyle's top aide, has surfaced in connection with the controversy over the sale, which state regulators initially rejected. State and federal investigators are reviewing whether campaign contributions to Doyle led to a reversal of that decision.

A Doyle aide said there was nothing improper about the meeting with Goodwin.

Rick Zuercher, a spokesman for Dominion Resources of Richmond, Va., confirmed that Dominion executives met with Goodwin while the utility's request to buy the plant was pending. But they were careful to not violate procedural rules of the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, the agency that was considering whether Dominion should be allowed to buy the plant for more than \$200 million, he added.

Zuercher said that all rules prohibiting direct contact between company representatives and commission members while cases are pending were followed.

"We respected the Wisconsin process, and we did follow the proper protocol with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission on all this. But we were new to the state, and when we were buying Kewaunee, we wanted to put a name on a face," Zuercher said.

Doyle spokesman Matt Canter said Goodwin was not available for comment Thursday.

Canter said there was nothing improper about the meeting involving Dominion officials and Goodwin, as Doyle has made energy reform a centerpiece of his term.

"The bottom line is anything that was discussed was in the public record - it was not anything about deliberations or anything like that," he said.

It would be the "sorriest attempt at a political hack job I've ever seen" for anyone to imply that politics played any role in the meeting, Canter added.

Eric Callisto, a lawyer and the executive assistant at the commission, said the meeting was "absolutely proper" because Dominion was trying to buy one of Wisconsin's two nuclear power plants - a purchase of "major proportions" for the state's energy future.

"I think (Dominion officials) would be remiss not to meet with state officials on a decision of this consequence," he added.

\$43,650 in donations

The controversy stems from a chain of events in which the commission first rejected, then reconsidered and finally approved the plant sale.

State and federal officials are investigating whether \$43,650 in donations from utility executives to Doyle's re-election campaign in 2004 and early 2005 played any role in the commission's process.

Also under review is a November 2004 fund-raising event for Doyle. The morning after the fund-raiser, the commission voted 2-1 to reject the plant sale, with Doyle's two appointees on the commission voting against it.

After Dominion and the two plant owners, Wisconsin Public Service Corp. and Wisconsin Power & Light Co., made changes to the proposed sale in response to concerns that the Doyle appointees - then-Chairwoman Burnie Bridge and Mark Meyer - raised, the commission voted several months later to approve the sale.

The meeting involving Goodwin and Dominion Resources officials is part of the investigation or will become part of it, a source familiar with the inquiry said Thursday.

Mike McCabe, executive director of the political watchdog group Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, called the disclosure significant because Doyle has always tried to distance himself from approval of the plant sale.

"The governor's office has continually said the Public Service Commission is an independent agency, and this company's business was before the PSC," he said. "Why was the company meeting with the governor's chief of staff, and why was the company donating so heavily to the governor when they had business before the PSC?"

"I think, at best, it raises legitimate suspicions about the extent to which the PSC was truly independent in its deliberations on the Kewaunee nuclear power plant."

Early in 2004

The exact date of the meeting could not be learned Thursday, but one official said it was early in 2004 - close to when four Dominion executives donated a total of \$2,000 to Doyle's re-election campaign.

Zuercher characterized the meeting as introductory.

"It's not unusual for us to send Dominion representatives to introduce ourselves in regions where we are not known," he said.

For example, he said, when Dominion bought a Connecticut nuclear power plant, the Millstone Power Station, several years ago, executives met with officials of that state.

"This was just the normal course of business," Zuercher said. "We were not doing anything that was improper."

Scott Smith, a spokesman for Wisconsin Power & Light, said his company's officials didn't meet with anyone from Doyle's office in 2004. But representatives of all three companies met with Doyle representatives in November 2003, soon after the proposed sale was announced, said Smith and Kerry Spees, a Wisconsin Public Service spokesman.

Smith, who worked at the commission under Chairwoman Ave Bie, said there was no mystery to the commission's change of heart in the Kewaunee case, given that the utilities revised the deal to address concerns that Bridge and Meyer had raised about the initial sale agreement.

"The process at the commission is an open process that was followed," Smith said. "There was a decision, there were changes that were made, and then there was a different decision."

Thomas Content of the Journal Sentinel staff reported from Milwaukee. Steven Walters, Stacy Forster and Patrick Marley of the Journal Sentinel's Madison bureau contributed to this report.

From the Aug. 25, 2006 editions of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
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Posted September 9, 2006

Terrorism takes higher priority in County planning

By Kristopher Wenn Herald Times Reporter

MANITOWOC — The Sept. 11 attacks changed the way Nancy Crowley views preparing Manitowoc County for an emergency.

"I think that the thing that I have noted, whether you're in an emergency management field or any other field since then, is that we have all lost a certain naivete," said Crowley, the county's emergency services coordinator said. "It's a shame that in the past you could trust people, you weren't looking to see they are up to any mischief ... That's the part that has bothered me the most is that we have become so much more distrustful of each other."

Crowley said planning and preparing has shifted to a focus on terrorism rather than preparing for other emergencies. The county has received nearly \$1 million in terrorism-related programs since Sept. 11, she said.

Just after Sept. 11, there was a rush by the federal government to send money to local governments equipment. As time past, the focus shifted to training, she said.

"There is no doubt about the fact that it has changed some of our planning and preparedness efforts gotten a significant amount of money into the county which has been spread to all across all of the equipment. This was for training that we certainly wouldn't be able to afford had we had the support."

Crowley said one example of changes after Sept. 11 is security efforts at the Point Beach and Kewa plants. Both plants established restricted zones on Lake Michigan in order to meet new regulations of Regulatory Commission after Sept 11.

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Tritium in water under nuclear plant

Kewaunee owner, regulators say radioactive isotope doesn't pose health threat

By THOMAS CONTENT
tcontent@journalsentinel.com

Posted: Aug. 15, 2006

The release of tritium underneath the Kewaunee nuclear plant doesn't pose a health risk because the radioactive substance hasn't been found in drinking water, federal nuclear regulators said.

Advertisement The radioactive isotope of hydrogen was found in four groundwater samples taken from narrow shafts underneath the nuclear plant, located in the Kewaunee County Town of Carlton, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Dominion Resources Inc., which owns Kewaunee, stressed that no unsafe levels of tritium have been detected at monitoring wells near the plant or outside the plant's boundary.

Kewaunee is one of 10 plants around the country where tritium leaks have been found. The nuclear industry is stepping up testing for tritium after a series of leaks at several plants. Testing at Exelon Corp.'s Braidwood plant in Illinois detected tritium in a nearby homeowner's well.

State and local authorities in Kewaunee and Manitowoc counties were informed last week of the discovery, which Dominion revealed on Friday.

Tritium is released naturally in the Earth's upper atmosphere. It is also released as a byproduct of power production by nuclear reactors. While it's a low-level source of radiation, people who drink water that contains high levels of tritium are at higher risk of developing cancer, and pregnant women drinking tritium-tainted water are at higher risk of their babies developing abnormalities, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA allows up to 20,000 picocuries per liter of tritium in drinking water. In one of the four shafts measured beneath the Kewaunee reactor basement, tritium was measured at 103,000 picocuries per liter, the NRC said.

"They've found a small amount of groundwater seeped into these shafts, and when they collected and measured these samples last week, they found three of them with relatively low levels of tritium and one case that was above the EPA drinking water level," said NRC spokesman Jan Strasma.

Dominion detected the tritium while conducting tests as part of a voluntary program launched by the Nuclear Energy Institute, an industry trade group. The tests were conducted in shafts that are generally used to measure whether the plant's buildings have settled.

"This is not a threat to anyone's health," said Richard Zuercher, a spokesman for Dominion, stressing that the water in which tritium was found is not drinking water.

"This is directly under the station," he said. "Right now we have a team of individuals up there who are evaluating this, trying to determine where the possible source of this tritium might be."

Strasma said possible sources of the leak include the reactor's spent fuel pool, a leaking underground pipe, or a spill of water that drained into an area where the shafts are located.

Zuercher said there wouldn't be any health risk posed by the amount of tritium found at Kewaunee.

"If you were to drink a cup of water that contained the highest level, that would be the same as the naturally occurring radiation you would receive by eating one banana," he said.

Nuclear opponent concerned

Bonnie Urfer of Nukewatch, a Luck, Wis.-based group that is critical of nuclear power, said she thinks the concerns are being minimized by both the energy company and the NRC.

"Groundwater is not stationary, it doesn't stay in one place, and they still don't know where this leak is coming from," she said. "They can't know at this point how it's going to affect the environment or drinking water in the area."

Tests are conducted weekly of wells near the plant, and "we have seen no tritium in any of those tests," said Amy Wergin, public health nurse manager at the Manitowoc County Health Department.

More and more nuclear plants across the country are disclosing findings about tritium as a result of an industrywide response to leaks at several nuclear plants.

On Tuesday, Edison International, owner of the shuttered San Onofre nuclear plant north of San Diego, told the NRC it had detected tritium beneath the reactor.

Including Kewaunee and San Onofre, 10 nuclear plants have announced tritium findings, with four leaks disclosed in the past week, David Lochbaum, a nuclear engineer with the Union of Concerned Scientists, told Bloomberg News.

Southern Co. told regulators last week of tritium at its Hatch site in Georgia, and Xcel Energy Inc. reported a low level of the substance at the Prairie Island reactor in Minnesota on Aug. 8, said Lochbaum. Xcel, based in Minneapolis, serves western Wisconsin through its Eau Claire utility.

Lochbaum said that, by some estimates, "about a fourth" of the 65 U.S. nuclear plant sites will find some level of tritium on site.

"The final total is not in," he said. The reason for the increase in tritium-leak reports is because "people are now looking, and the reporting threshold is lower."

Urfer said the leak is a cause for concern, given Kewaunee's location on the shore of Lake Michigan.

"They don't know how many of these reactors are leaking," Urfer said. "For a reactor that's sitting on Lake Michigan, one of the best freshwater supplies in the entire world, it should be a serious issue."

The Point Beach nuclear plant, a few miles south of Kewaunee, is planning to participate in the "groundwater reassessments" taking place, said plant spokeswoman Sara Cassidy.

Both Kewaunee and Point Beach do regular testing and have been in compliance with federal standards that permit tritium to be released at low levels, officials said.

In 1975, Point Beach, which is owned by Milwaukee-based Wisconsin Energy Corp., experienced a low-level radioactive release, which included tritium. The area was cleaned up to levels significantly below the EPA's drinking water limit.

Bloomberg News contributed to this report.

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Nuclear disaster drills staged

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Facility housed at Interstate 43 Business Center

By **Nathan Phelps**

nphelps@greenbaypressgazette.com June 3, 2006

The building looks like most of the others in the Interstate 43 Business Center, but it houses a facility most people in Northeastern Wisconsin may not know exists.

Nestled among other buildings sporting names of the businesses inside, the unmarked building on Voyager Drive houses the Emergency Operations Facility for Dominion Resources Inc.

Dominion is the owner and operator of the Kewaunee Power Station, a nuclear plant located on Lake Michigan in the town of Carlton.

On Thursday, about a dozen plant employees sat in front of four large screens on the wall showing simulated data from the plant.

It was part of an emergency exercise in which operators dealt with several simulated issues simultaneously — ranging from a control rod/reactor fuel problem to ways to keep the reactor cool after three feed-water pumps were rendered unavailable following an earthquake and other events.

In another part of the 10,000-square-foot building, other employees were busy gathering information about the event and preparing statements for the media as part of the exercise.

"It'll be our headquarters for dealing with anything that has to do with an emergency out at the station," said Joe Reid, local affairs manager with the Kewaunee Power Station.

The building, a \$1.8 million investment for Dominion required by federal regulations, is designed to be a central gathering point for plant emergency teams, federal, state and local emergency officials, and the media.

Part of the facility is leased to Point Beach Nuclear Plant — which falls under the umbrella of different owners and operators — to provide a known gathering point for both facilities in case of an emergency.

Reid said Dominion anticipates having the facility operational by the end of the month. It has been renting space from Wisconsin Public Service in downtown Green Bay for its existing emergency facility.

Leslie Hartz, vice president of the Kewaunee Power Station, said the building is part of the company's fundamental responsibility to protect the health and safety of the public.

"Before we even closed on the plant (last summer) we bought this building because we knew we were going to need something like this," she said. "You can't take it for granted, which is why we spent \$1.8

(million) on something we may never use — because it's that important."

Hartz said the primary function of Thursday's exercise was to make sure the facility is ready to go live in about three weeks when staff activates the facility.

Bob Host, an emergency planner with the state, was on hand for the drill. He said having all of the players from different agencies in one building helps communication, which in turn provides a smooth flow of information to the public.

In late April the plant declared an alert — the first in about 20 years — while shutting down the reactor for planned repairs.

That level of emergency is the second-lowest tier of emergency events. There was no radioactive release from the plant, and federal regulators said the company handled the situation properly.

In training, situations can be pushed as far as in a general emergency, which is the highest-level emergency at a plant.

Tom Webb, the power station's director of safety and licensing, said staff practices those situations to get people used to handling the decisions they could have to make in a real-time event.

"We need to do that so people train for the worst and people have to get comfortable making protective active recommendations," he said. "The state and us don't really start communication heavily until we get into a general emergency where we're going to make recommendations to the state."

Tom Sheehan: Nuclear power still a heated topic in Wisconsin

By Tom Sheehan

MADISON - You'll get a chance this fall to vote in an advisory referendum on the death penalty and on a constitutional ban on gay marriage and civil unions.

But the gubernatorial race between Democratic Gov. Jim Doyle and Republican challenger Mark Green could be viewed as a referendum on another hot topic - nuclear power.

Thanks, in part, to a conditional moratorium on nuclear power plants signed into law in 1983, the state hasn't approved construction of a nuclear power plant in 30 years. The law forbids construction of a nuclear plant unless it's deemed beneficial to utility ratepayers and the federal government has approved a repository for holding spent nuclear fuel rods.

But if Green's elected, and a few other political stars line up, nuclear power could quickly get a boost.

"He thinks nuclear power needs to be part of our energy mix, and I guess by virtue of that, he's in favor of lifting the moratorium," said Luke Punzenberger, a spokesman for Green's campaign.

Doyle, on the other hand, remains opposed to any expansion of nuclear power plants, said Dan Leistikow, a spokesman for the governor.

Doyle likely would veto bills that would lift the moratorium, but that hasn't stopped Assembly Majority Leader Mike Huebsch, R-West Salem, from introducing bills that would do so during each of the last two legislative sessions.

Huebsch wants nuclear power, which now accounts for about 20 percent of the state's energy production, to be an option to meet the state's growing energy demands.

Huebsch is a top contender for Assembly speaker in the next legislative session, so his support may bode well for the nuclear option. A Legislative Council study committee also has been assigned to the topic this fall, which means proposed legislation is likely, no matter who's in control of the governor's office or the Legislature.

Now, about those other stars ...

First, the fate of the moratorium may hinge on Huebsch being re-elected and Republicans retaining control of the Assembly. Huebsch also will have to remain popular enough with fellow Assembly Republicans to be elected Speaker over other contenders.

Given Republican dominance of the Assembly, those scenarios seem quite plausible.

Then, assuming the nuclear issue breaks down along party lines, the question remains of which party will control the Senate. Political observers suggest Democrats have a shot at adding three swing seats, which would put them in control if they don't lose any other seats.

On top of that, Huebsch and other supporters may have to overcome controversial environmental and public health questions about disposal of spent nuclear fuel. Opponents contend a typical nuclear power plant produces 20 to 30 tons of high-level nuclear waste per year, and waste already is stacking up.

Nuclear proponents say coal, which produces most electricity in the state, presents its own set of health hazards, including 26,000 deaths a year caused by pollution, according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates.

So, will more nuclear power be part of the mix in helping Wisconsin meet its future energy demand, which is expected to increase about 50 percent in the next 15 years? That may be as tough a question as whether or not Wisconsin should re-instate the death penalty or ban gay marriage. Nuclear power's not on the ballot, but your vote may make a difference.

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