2/4/08

Dear Sam Collins,

The local paper just ran an article with the headline "Nuclear review may bar key foes." The reporter went on to explain how staff vetted contentions and requests from several local communities and rejected them.

The article did not even mention the contentions submitted by the group I am involved with, so I will put that aside for now.

Westchester County was supposedly rejected because they did not file contentions but just submitted a letter. That happens to be true

for two other local communities, Cortlandt and Greenburg.

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Sam, I had conversations with many URC reps and it was never mentioned that staff would vet the submissions. I was always told it was solely the responsibility of the ASLB.

Furthermore, Neil Sheehan told me personally that communities in the EPZ could file just by writing a letter, no contention is necessary. He said that in the past the ASLB had granted such requests because elected officials represented concerned citizen stakeholders

He did not promise that the ASLB would accept all such requests for inclusion but did indicate that they had done so in the past. It really did give me a certain hope for the process.

Now that stoffers have turned down such requests I can no longer feel this way. In fact, I feel foolish since I went to my own town of Cortlandt and encouraged them to write a letter. I encouraged others to do the same thing in their communities. The headline on the second page of the

article is "They won't shut us out." This is a quote from our county executive.

Do you see how bad all of this makes your agency look? Why on earth would you ever want to take the heat for the ASLB? I am so mad about what I perceive as another slick trick on the part of the NRC that my next letter will be to John Hall and Rep. Dingle. There seems to be no place else to turn.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Che