

RAS #AA-14

Hearing Docket

From: SaraSfitz@aol.com
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2008 11:37 AM
To: Paul Bollwerk
Subject: Limited Appearance Bellefonte Nuclear Plants Units 3 and 4

DOCKETED
USNRC
August 11, 2008 11:37 am

**Limited Appearance
Bellefonte Nuclear Plants Units 3 and 4
Docket No. 52-014--COL and 52-15--COL**

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF
Docket No. 52-014-COL and 52-015-COL

Your Honor,

I attended your hearing on the Bellefonte Nuclear Plants. Please allow me to express my deep appreciation for the very professional and fair manner in which the hearings were conducted. I was truly impressed by the knowledge and perspicacity of the judges.

My major reasons for opposing these plants are as follows:

1. Water Usage -- We currently have extreme drought conditions in much of the area feeding the Tennessee River, to the extent that many communities have had to curtail water usage (including Brown's Ferry Nuclear Plant). The Bellefonte plants will have a loss of more that 8 billion gallons of water per year -- a loss we cannot afford. In addition, the 91° return water will be devastating to the aquatic life, which is already reduced significantly by other plants.
2. Excessive Cost -- The current projected costs for building a Westinghouse AP1000 plant (the specifications and design keep changing) are at least \$15 billion. This is an unacceptable cost for the rate payers of the TVA area. Even TVA has acknowledged that efficiency and demand response measures can easily obviate the need for at least one plant and these benefits could begin immediately, at almost no cost, instead of in 2013 or thereafter. This amount of debt would also hamper TVA in any attempts to use solar or wind power because of the Congressional-mandated debt ceiling.
3. Unstable Site -- Bellefonte is in an active seismic zone and the subsurface rock is extremely brittle in drought conditions, adding to the instability. There is already a sink hole very close to the existing cooling towers after only one year of severe drought.
4. Nuclear Waste -- Until some viable and safe storage and/or other usage of the nuclear waste generated by these plants has been identified, it is too dangerous to build any additional nuclear plants. This waste problem will be exacerbated if nuclear power becomes "the answer" to the climate crisis.

Thank you for your attention to my comments and concerns,
Sincerely,
Sara S. Fitzgerald
1203 Melrose St.
Tullahoma, TN 37388

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