

SummerCEm Resource

From: AMOSBYRD@aol.com
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The State of SC and for that matter, the entire US desperately needs more nuclear power plants like the ones being proposed by SCE&G Company. As a professional power engineer for over 36 years, I can speak with some authority on the subject. I chair several international power standards committees that have members from all over the world. We never fully agree on anything. But, there is one thing that we all agree on, that is: nuclear power is the only near term solution to the energy crisis.

Solar collectors are too inefficient, and produce too little power for the amount of surface area that they require. We would have to cover half of the US with Solar Collectors, just to provide for the amount of power the USA uses in the other half: today. This fact will not change any time soon with any new solar cells presently being scientifically investigated.

Wind turbines produce too little power per unit and require vast arrays to provide any meaningful power. They kill migrating birds by the thousands. They also produce certain low frequency sound waves that are already causing health concerns to local citizens.

Both Solar and Wind have a giant problem. What do you do when the sun doesn't shine or the wind stops blowing? Just last summer the city of Houston, Texas, lost power because a local wind farm stopped producing power, due to no wind. Where is the power going to come from to replace that power not being produced?

The entire US Transmission System would have to be wastefully reengineered to provide vast and inefficient electrical power transfers into these unbalanced networks. The system already has large problems with system stability. Note: the several massive power failures in the Northeast, Midwest, and Canadian regions in just the past few years. All due to system stability problems.

Any reasonable person realizes that Nuclear Power is the only answer: near term. Yes, we can pursue alternative energy sources; solar, wind, and geothermal: but only to supplement our Nuclear and Coal fired power plants. And yes again, Coal is now, and will be for a long time: a major energy source for the USA. Cleaner methods must be pursued, but coal will be with us into the future.

More people have died due to the energy source: Oil, than to all other energy sources combined. That includes the two nuclear bombs dropped during World War 2. The continued reliance on Oil places the security of our country, and our nations future, on a path to destruction. This must and will: STOP!

To continue to block nuclear energy in the US only allows our competitors in the rest of the world to build nuclear power plants on our back door such as in: Venezuela, and other South American Countries. These plants are being built, with or without the involvement of the USA. We do not control the whole world, and science will move at ahead; regardless of how our country reacts.

South Carolina in particular has a chance to really benefit from a massive program of nuclear power plant construction. In Columbia, Westinghouse Nuclear makes the fuel rods. In Greenville, GE designs generation facilities. In Barnwell we can reprocess nuclear waste into reusable fuel and eliminate the waste problem. This is already being done throughout the rest of the world. Finally, Charleston can ship & receive nuclear power plant equipment and materials throughout the world. The number of high paying skilled jobs created could change the very way SC Citizens lead their lives for the better.

In Conclusion: not only should SCE&G be given a license to build, and operate this new Nuclear Power Plant, the entire State should be allowed to employ this technology for the betterment of our citizens and the world.

Submitted by

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