

June 2, 2009 (2:15pm)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

May 24, 2009

To: The Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Honorable Judge Karlin presiding

Re: Limited Appearance Statement in the case of Levy County Units 1 and 2

From: Loren Olson, 928 North Chauncey, West Lafayette, IN 47906, olson.loren@gmail.com

Your Honor,

I would like to place a short historical comment in the record. It happens that Mary Olson, a staff member of Nuclear Information and Resource Service a petitioner in the Levy County license, is my sister. It also happens that since I had an art show hanging in April, that she came to visit me soon after participating in oral arguments in the Levy County proceeding. Mary of course related high and low points of that experience.

This historical note requires some recent history to frame it: My husband Al Pounders and I are painters. Al has been painting landscapes based on the mountains of Umbria, Italy for the last 20 years and we live in Italy in the summer. Mary visited us there and once traveled to the nearby City of Perugia.

When she related the part about the oral arguments about whether reasonable and significant alternatives to nuclear energy have been considered and how she invoked Perugia and the Pope who walled off part of the city residents – sentencing them to never see the sun again -- we all had a good laugh. Later I stopped and realized that her comparison of the Pope's anger to the current situation was more apt than she realized.

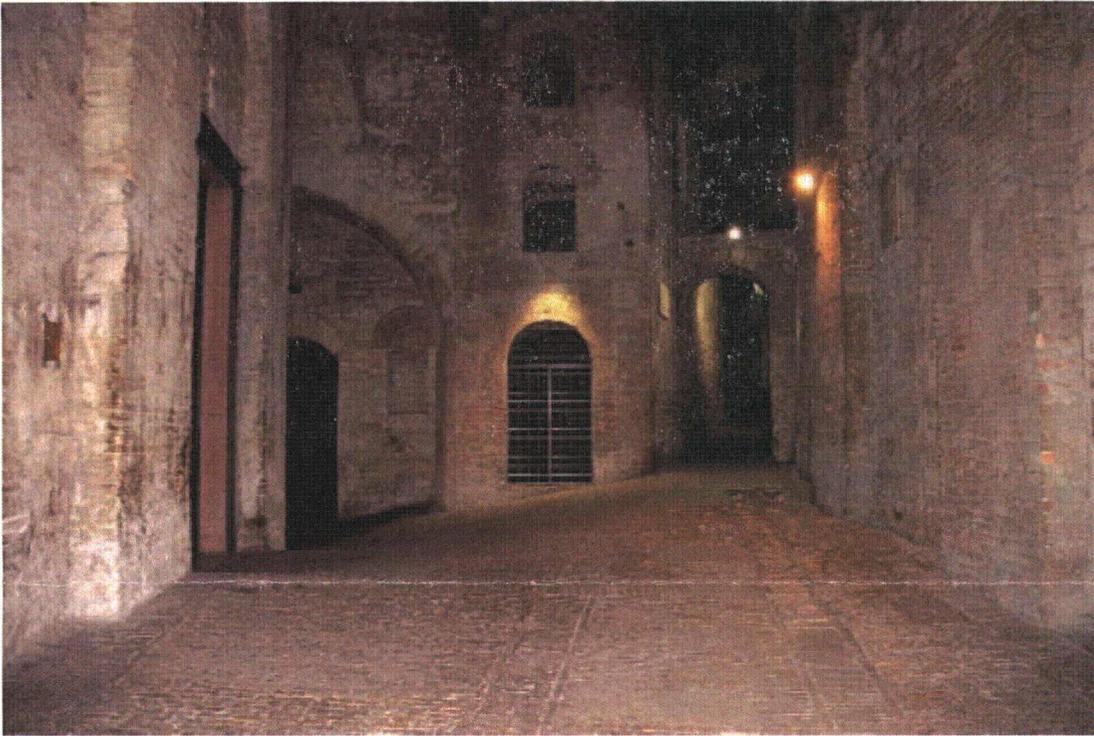
Perugia was a free city state and had a history of conflict with Rome. In 1539 then Pope Paolo III Farnese imposed a stiff salt tax which the local people rebelled against – in part by refusing to use salt in their bread and also food preservation. War ensued. When the papal troops won in 1540, the Pope ordered that a portion of the city where the rebel leaders lived be encased in the enormous fort – the Rocca Paolina Fortress so that their houses and streets were preserved, but the enormous structure built over them would mean that they would never see the light of day again (see photos attached, and for a historical account: you can read on-line the “Original Catholic Encyclopedia version <http://oce.catholic.com/index.php?title=Perugia> or, the more local folkloric version: [http://www.umbriatravel.com/Perugia/Perugia The War of the Salt.htm](http://www.umbriatravel.com/Perugia/Perugia%20The%20War%20of%20the%20Salt.htm)).

What strikes me as significant to add to this record is that in 2009, today, if you travel to Umbria you will get bread that is made from flour and water, maybe other ingredients, but no salt (unless you specifically request it). It is now 469 years later. Progress Energy Florida should not underestimate what can happen if people feel that they are being unfairly taxed. It is also interesting to me that this longstanding rejection of salt in the local foods has contributed to the fresh cuisine that we enjoy, and is now becoming recognized world-round as one of the most healthy diets in the world. I wish similar health to the people of Florida who might similarly elect a more healthy energy path.

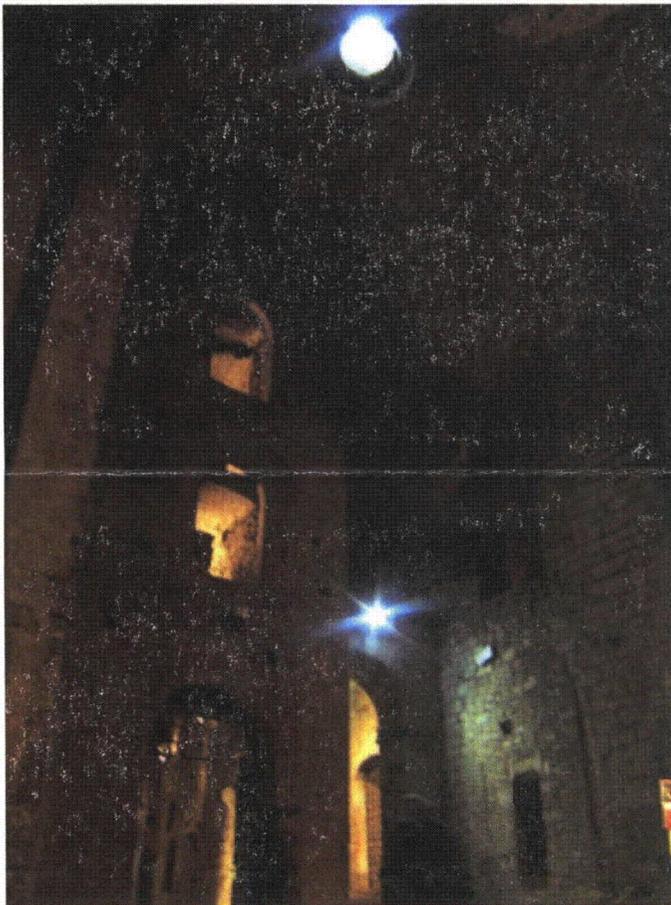
Sincerely,



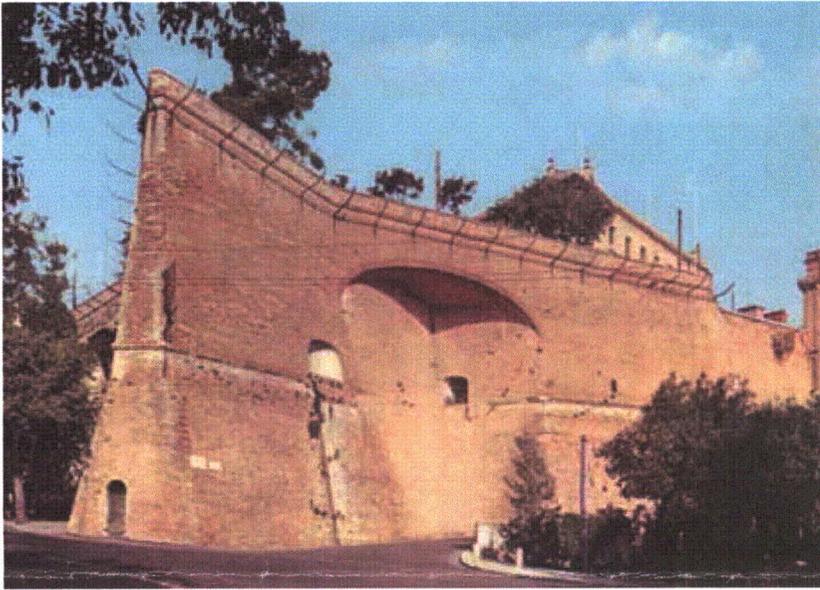
Loren Olson



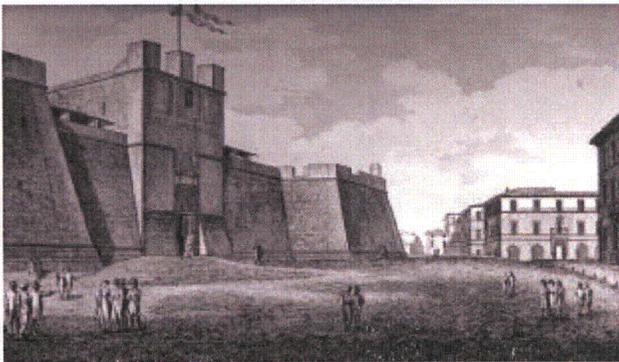
This picture shows the original street and buildings of this section of the ancient city.



This shot shows the “roof” that enclosed this portion of the city, excluding any natural daylight. The lights are, of course contemporary additions.



This is the structure from the outside showing the enormous buttressing required to cantilever the structure over the existing houses and streets.



This historical rendering of the fortress depicts the kind of “security” that was imposed upon this community.