

**Stop the proposal of William States Lee Nuclear Power Plant in Gaffney, SC,**

because:

1. Nuclear Power is Expensive, \$6 to \$8 billion per reactor; with promised bailouts from our government
2. Terrorist attacks or accidents or leakage from storms would cost thousands of lives and billions of dollars
3. Nuclear waste remains radioactive for millions of years; we still need effective nuclear waste management
4. "Thermal pollution" kills plants, fish, and other organisms, stressing the entire environment. The proposed W.S. Lee nuclear power plant could withdraw 47 million gallons of water per day from the broad river and return only ¼ back to the river. Hot water discharge and the release of radioactive contaminants and hazardous chemicals threaten wildlife and human health.
5. There is no "safe" level of radiation which can damage reproductive cells and lead to genetic mutations and cancer, damage the immune system, cause leukemia and more. (World Health Organization)
6. Nuclear power reactors create plutonium which can be used to make bombs. It is one of the most toxic man-made substances known, remaining radioactive for more than 240,000 years.
7. Nuclear power IS NOT RENEWABLE. Uranium mining is highly toxic and imported from foreign countries.
8. Our water supply is threatened by the potential for leaking radioactivity from the reactor (documented at dozens of sites today).
9. Duke and SCG&E are planning Cliffside Coal Plant and 5 nuclear reactors on the Broad (2 at Lee in Gaffney and 3 at Summer in Jenkinsville). This is not sustainable and jeopardizes the entire Broad River water shed and drinking source for Columbia, SC.

I live 40 miles from Gaffney, having returned home to the mountains after a lifetime of working against nuclear weapons.

Now I find this horrible idea happening in essentially my own back yard.

We must protect our precious environment, for future generations, and not leave them even worse problems than we, in our ignorance or greed, have created.

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*Ellen Thomas*

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*NRC hearing, Gaffney, SC*