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52-018/52-019

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland.

Re: Licensing a New Nuclear Energy Plant.

Dear Commissioners:

This is to request that you deny Duke Energy (aka Duke Power) the **license to build and operate a new Nuclear Plant in Cherokee, ~~North~~ South Carolina**[1] and any further such plants within the boundaries of the United States and Territories. My local Public Service Commission referred me to you when I contacted them about this matter. **My request is based on sound scientific rationale in which the long term risks are worse than the short term results .**

1. Nuclear Energy Plants create hazardous health and enviromental concerns. There are three major cities that an accident at this plant could affect--- Charlotte, N.C. Cherokee, S.C., Gaffney, Spartanburg, S.C. Greenville, S.C. as well as a host of other cities and communities nearby should the plant ever blow up. We have only to look at the so-called Savannah Bomb Plant and see the results of the many cancers that have resulted from the operations that have taken place in the past in that area as the short sighted infantile reasoning (*out of sight out of mine well no danger was posed in the short term*) that allowed this plant to damage the enviroment et al. We only have to look to Hiroshima, Las Vegas, Bimini Island in the Marshalls as well as Guam to see the long term dangers radioactive elements and waste

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1. This is in South Carolina County near North Carolina border. NRO

products cause. Not only because of cancers but the health professions have seen a higher rate of birth defects because of nuclear contamination that is almost unavoidable since many of the gaseous products are and were released into the air.

2. The Cherokee **area is crossed by many earthquake faults** that will go off but to the degree the quake will occur and when we cannot scientifically predict. We can say that while quakes in this area are normally less than 5.0; but there is always the chance of a big one like the Charleston, South Carolina quake in the late 1800s and this area is overdue for a major quake. The quakes in Charleston,S.C. Area and most of the upstate S.C. and Western North Carolina are normally around 3.0 max but we have had some that are as much as 5.0. **The earthquake faults in the Charlotte, N.C./Cherokee, and South Carolina area have been very active of late. A quake could set off a chain of events that could end up like Chernobyl and the recent Japanese accident.**

3. ***"The best laid plans of mice and men oft go awry"*** *(Robert Burns).* We know that while plants are well planned to prevent nuclear accidents that they still occur anyway as evidenced here in the US by the Three Mile Island accident during the Carter Administration; the Chernobyl accident; not to mention minor accidents here in South Carolina at the Oconee Nuclear Plant. The consequences of a nuclear plant accident are not the same as that of a tornado, or volcano because the results can last as much as several billion years. Meanwhile, Plants and animals spread the dust and elements all over the area and beyond. **We can say that a nuclear plant accident will happen no matter how carefully the plant and training of the personnel are or will be we cannot say when or how just as we cannot predict the exact dates et al of earthquakes.**

4. **Nuclear Energy as we know it today was developed as a weapon of war with the short sighted reasoning of its consequences. Its present use for Peace time uses is putting the cart before the horse when it should be the other way around.** It was never intended to be used for Peace but as a matter of scientific study with a future practical application when we had learned how to fully control it and turn waste products into **useful stable products.** Science knows how to get a reaction going and possibly to stop it **but it does not yet know how to capture all the waste particles and**

matter and turn them into a stable harmless. ***For instance we can convert Lead into Gold but we do not know how to capture the bi-products and turn them into harmless useful products.*** Nuclear Energy is not a toy to be played with and used simply because we can. This toying with it is like the toying with Electricity in the 18th and 19th century and you can find in old catalogs all kinds of toys—electric belts, electric medical devices that make false claims et al Using nuclear energy to in essence duplicate an 19th century form of technology of boiling water is putting the cart before is ridiculous when there are safer and better methods of energy creation available –such as geothermal, solar, wind sources just to begin with.

5. I do wish to suggest that the Commission consider having research done that would use what are currently waste bi products of controlled nuclear fission to create stable harmless products such as gold, certain rare metals, et al. This way we would not end up with all the waste that is harmful to all living things as well as the environment in general.

Sincerely yours.

William Rowland, B.Sc, M.Sc. (*candidate).*