

AP1000DCDCEm Resource

From: Geraldine Adams [deania47@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 6:17 PM
To: Rulemaking Comments
Subject: Stop the AP1000 (Docket ID NRC-2010-0131)

Dear Secretary Vietti-Cook,

In the wake of the crisis at Fukushima, it has become clear that we cannot afford to take any unnecessary risks when building nuclear reactors. Because disaster can occur at any nuclear reactor, the NRC needs to ensure that it has taken all possible precautions before moving forward with the new Westinghouse AP1000 reactor design considered for construction in Georgia, South Carolina and other states.

Addressing safety concerns, not satisfying the industry, should be the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's primary concern. NRC engineer John S. Ma's non-concurrence with the review of the reactor raised the possibility that the AP1000's shield building could shatter "like a glass cup." It would be indefensible for the NRC to move forward without further addressing that weakness. Also, Westinghouse has not satisfactorily proved that the thin steel containment shell over the reactor would be effective during severe accidents or that the reactor could be properly cooled in conditions similar to those at Fukushima.

Especially considering the ongoing crisis in Japan and extrapolating from that, the fact that two of the proposed AP1000 reactors are in the NEW MADRID FAULT ZONE, rated the NUMBER ONE THREAT HAZARD in the US. I do not see this consideration mentioned at all. We still have to wait for the Fukushima review which will not take place until the situation is brought under control. Given the current circumstances, we can never go back to "business as usual" in the nuclear industry. The current 75-day public comment period on the reactor design is wholly insufficient for the new AP1000 reactor. I urgently request the NRC put the license application on hold until a thorough review of the Japanese accident has been conducted, weaknesses in the AP1000 design have been reviewed in light of the accident and plant siting issues have been thoroughly assessed. To stick with the grossly inadequate 75-day rulemaking comment period would be the height of irresponsibility by the NRC.

Also, please accept the petition filed by the twelve environmental organizations of the AP1000 Oversight Group to suspend rulemaking. To ensure transparency, please include this comment and all others in the formal review proceedings and post them in the NRC's online library so the public can see any expressed concerns.

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