

AP1000DCDCEm Resource

From: Barbara Antonoplos [barbara.a369@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2011 9:21 PM
To: Rulemaking Comments
Subject: Stop the AP1000 (Docket ID NRC-2010-0131)

Dear Secretary Vietti-Cook,

In light of the yet-unfolding nuclear disaster in Japan, it is imperative that the NRC take indefinite, extended time to review the AP1000 Westinghouse reactor design in order to ensure that all possible risks are addressed before moving forward with this design which is planned for construction in my state--Georgia--as well as South Carolina and others.

Addressing safety concerns, not accommodating the wishes of 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 proven 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. Since there will be no opportunity in the near future to thoroughly examine all that went wrong at Fukushima, there is no way to know what bearing that situation, which is affecting the entire world, might have on the AP1000 design under review.

In view of the ongoing crisis in Japan and the review which will take place when the situation is brought under control--which is currently projected to be many months down the road--but who really knows?-- the current 75-day public comment period on the reactor design is grossly inadequate.

I request that the NRC put the license application on hold until a thorough review of the Japanese accident has been conducted and weaknesses in the AP1000 design have been reviewed in light of the accident. To stick with the undeniably insufficient 75-day rulemaking comment period, thus ending it amidst a crisis of the magnitude of Fukushima, would be the height of irresponsibility by the NRC. The only responsible action at this point is for the rulemaking comment period to be extended INDEFINITELY.

Also, I request that you accept the petition filed by the twelve environmental organizations of the AP1000 Oversight Group to suspend rulemaking.

Furthermore, in order 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.

Barbara Antonoplos

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