

AP1000DCDCEm Resource

From: Scott Hicks [swhicks510@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2011 10:26 PM
To: Rulemaking Comments
Subject: Docket ID NRC-2010-0131: Suspend the AP1000 approval

Dear Secretary Vietti-Cook,

We cannot afford nuclear reactors. Long term and short term economic, public health and environmental costs are too high. The NRC should be charged with enforcing a moratorium on new construction in Georgia, South Carolina and other states. The best course now is to figure out what to do with existing nuclear waste and stop producing more.

Considering the ongoing crisis in Japan and the review which will take place when the situation is brought under control, the current 75-day public comment period on the reactor design is insufficient. I request that the NRC put the license for the new AP1000 reactor application on hold indefinitely. The NRC should not only not be granting any new licenses, it should never have been charged with issuing licenses in the first place. The genie is out of the bottle, granted, but we as a nation should have restricted nuclear reactors to only military and research uses. To allow civilian corporations to use this technology - a technology so obviously still very primitive - to make electricity to sell to the public is insanity.

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.

Addressing safety concerns - not catering to the nuclear power 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. Engineers are human and fallible. It's stupid, inefficient and incredibly dangerous to harness nuclear decay to heat water to make steam to spin turbines to produce electricity. Hubris in extreme.

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