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Mendiola, Doris

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REGNER
LISA

From: Anita Baly [ajbaly@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 28, 2011 3:06 PM
To: Regner, Lisa
Subject: Limerick Plant Relicensing Application is Too Early

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Dear Lisa,

It was good to meet you at the September 22, 2011 hearing the NRC held at Sunnybrook.

As I stated then, I continue to be concerned and puzzled about the very early and pre-mature application of Exelon to extend the licenses of the towers. One of those towers does not come up for renewal until 2024 and the other 2029. I ask the NRC not to work on the relicensing question for this facility for at least ten years. The wait could only ensure better information. The public cannot possibly benefit from a decision to renew the licenses at this time. The best decision will be made based on the best possible information. The NRC does not have that best information this early. Much will happen in the next ten years. I urge the NRC to wait and see how any of it affects the prospect of continuing these plants at that later date.

What can happen in the next ten years that we can all learn from relevantly could be anything. It may be better information about how natural disasters are affecting nuclear facilities; we may know more about weather patterns that could cause damage. We will certainly know more about the world situation in terms of advances in terrorist technological capabilities and goals. We will know more about how well nuclear plants in general and the Limerick facility are faring as they continue to age. If someone steps forward to fund studies, we will know yet more about cancer rates in the nuclear zone. (We do know something about that now: Joseph Mangano and others have done studies already that I assume he has provided to you, and I urge you to consider carefully.)

One big concern--because of Japan's recent experience and the fact that we had an earthquake here in the Limerick plant's territory--is refurbishing the plants so they can withstand earthquakes. It has been widely reported--by MSNBC and the AP, using NRC data--that the Limerick plant has the nation's third highest risk of being damaged by an earthquake. When the plant was built, no one thought this area would get earthquakes. Now we do. I understand that Congress is now or soon will be considering increasing earthquake preparedness capabilities at the plants. I fear that if you grant Exelon carte blanche now, the NRC would encourage them to do less than they should to make the plants safer.

There can be no good reasons for relicensing now. Please wait as long as possible to do that. Better information helps everyone who wants an outcome that is right and socially beneficial--not just profitable for Exelon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Anita Baly

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