



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

10/28/2011  
76 FR 46998

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2011 OCT 28 PM 2:06

FILES & EFFECTIVES

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Template = ADM-013

FRIDS = ADM-03  
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B. Olson  
(6401)

February 20, 2012

Chief Rulemaking Directive Editing  
Division at Administrative Services  
Office of Administration  
Mailstop TNB-05-B01M  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC. 20555-0001

Dear Sirs -

I attended the Environmental Impact Public Comments meeting on December 15, 2011 in Monroe, MI and wish to comment on the idea of building another nuclear plant (Fermi 3) in Monroe.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter written by Mary M. Johnston from Farmington Hills. Her comments were to try to read this letter but she was stopped and walked off the stage before she had been able to finish reading it.

My comment must be lacking of the great details she enumerated in the statement she wasn't allowed to read but I would like to say I felt how unreal it was that anyone would endorse any nuclear plant when "the water of the Manhattan Project, produced more than half a century ago, await a final disposition" I felt as though I was in a night mare - but it's real and so

wrong.

DTE Energy has no compunctions about lying - whether about their failure to give us the truth about the lack of safety in nuclear production or their determination to install Smart Meters on our homes.

All nuclear programs must be stopped as soon as possible and green energy be used instead.

Sincerely,

Charlotte M. Kieh  
19643 Fenelon  
Detroit, MI 48234

Enclosure - Letter attempted to be read at the hearing on December 15, 2012.

15 December, 2011

Environmental Impact Statement Public Comments

Re: NUREG 2105 Vol. 1

The Environmental Impact Statement prepared by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of the United States is a document that is so biased in favor of DTE Energy that it cannot and must not be the basis for the issuance of a license. It does not in any way represent an independent assessment and, in fact, could have been written by DTE Energy.

To ask for public comments on this EIS when the conclusions are already established is intolerable and outrageous. Federal officials have stated that no environmental issues exist that would prevent construction of a new nuclear power plant near Newport, Michigan. That statement is beyond rational belief and is totally refuted by the facts themselves.

As far back as 1986 Harold Denton, director of NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulations (NRR), when speaking about the GE Mark 1 Boiling Water Reactor (the design of Fermi 2) told utility officials that: "the Mark 1 containments, especially being smaller with lower design pressure-and in spite of the suppression pool-if you look at the Wash (1400) reg safety study, you'll find something like a 90% probability of that containment failing."

To counter these doubts designers have come up with a new and untested design for Fermi 3. It is a GE-designed passive Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR). Its failures will be tested not on computers but on living populations.

Just one of the many lethal components in nuclear reactors is Uranium 238 (U-238) whose half-life is 4.5 billion years, which is also the age of the solar system. After its useful life in a reactor it is given for free to munitions manufacturers. U-238 is still highly radioactive and due to its density and penetrating power is now, unknown to most Americans, used by the U.S. military in what are actually radioactive weapons.

Locally, Monroe County has seen a 45.5% increase in cancer deaths for those from birth to 24 (according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) since 1988 when Fermi 2 began operating. From 1979-1988 the cancer death rate among Monroe County residents under age 25 was 21.2% below the U. S. rate. In the early 1980s, the Monroe County cancer death rate was 36<sup>th</sup> highest of 83 Michigan counties, but by the early 2000s, it had moved up to 13<sup>th</sup> highest.

These heartbreaking statistics stand in sharp contrast to the rosy picture presented in this EIS. The sacrifice of our children in the service of a failed and failing industry, and the loss of their right to a livable world, is a moral failure of epic proportions.

Officials of DTE Energy who approve of this unconscionable devil's bargain, and profit from it, must be called to account. Site preparations must be stopped, injunctions put in place and investigations begun into the conclusions of this Environmental Impact Statement.

The environmental impact of accidents on populations worldwide are a continual indictment of nuclear power. Its destructive imprints are visible from space and are irreversible. To claim, as this EIS does, that no environmental issues exist is quite frankly preposterous. And it denies totally and factually the past history of this flawed and dangerous technology.

Windscale in England, the Urals Mountains in the former Soviet Union, the devastation of Chernobyl, Three Mile Island in the U. S. and Fukushima in Japan are warnings that are ignored at great peril to all life. How much more can the Earth withstand before its ecosystems falter and fail entirely?

(OVER)

Fermi 3 will contain within its core the capacity to render not just this area but many thousands of miles beyond the State of Michigan unlivable and uninhabitable. Within the 2 emergency planning zones 92,377 live within 10 miles and 4,799,526 live within 50 miles. The city center of Detroit is only 30 miles away. Evacuation is impossible with such numbers.

The best scientific minds of the 20<sup>th</sup> century discovered a fission process that combines some of the most poisonous elements on Earth in order to produce electrical energy. Consequently, a nuclear reactor's coolant must constantly bathe the core to prevent a serious accident that could result in the burning through of the containment, as we are witnessing today in Fukushima, Japan. Fukushima's radioactivity has been detected in fruits, vegetables and milk in the United States. And even without a catastrophic accident, the deadly products of normal operation cannot be disposed of in any ordinary way, but are instead being dispersed around the Earth. No safe burial is to be found anywhere. The wastes of The Manhattan Project, produced more than a half century ago, await a final disposition. This EIS assumes that there is such a place but, unfortunately, that dream is not to be, now or ever.

Meanwhile, the Great Lakes are daily assaulted and endangered by radioactive releases legally allowed under federal rules permitting them. Our Lakes were never meant to bear the burden that constantly pollutes its waters. The life sustaining capacities of 20% of the Earth's fresh water are precious resources beyond any attempt at cost/benefit analysis. They oppose, by their very existence, the life destroyers that are in all the Fermis of the world. We need look no further than the near meltdown at Fermi 1 documented in the book *We Almost Lost Detroit* to see the dangers completely unmentioned in this EIS. Fermi 1 remains as a decaying monument to human folly and to the arrogance of the nuclear establishment. A section of this EIS even lavishes praise (p. 4-97) on its possible designation as an historic site on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). If the NRHP does do this unthinkable act they should also warn potential visitors to wear dosimeter badges.

When Fermi2 went online it began a process that cannot be reversed. Water is incapable of removing its lethality. Earth cannot contain its poisons. And, ultimately, everything it touches it destroys. The reactor core itself is shielded by what is rightfully called a shroud whose protective coverings must withstand an accident of unimaginable force and destruction. The release of its poisoned contents could kill all within striking distance and permanently injure those beyond.

This EIS is shamefully dismissive of any dangers to the Earth that nuclear power represents. Its assessments are flawed and its conclusions unacceptable as an independent review of the impact of Fermi 3 on the environment.

It is crucial that local, state and federal representatives halt this process immediately. They must call to account DTE Energy and the NRC. This document represents their joint efforts to minimize the threats to public health and the environment that exist in the real world, in order to grant an operating license to DTE Energy. It is in light of these life threatening imperatives that these comments are submitted on behalf of our children, and all future generations, who deserve to inherit a clean, sustainable and unpolluted Earth.

Mary M. Johnston

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