

LeeCOLAEISComments Resource

From: Jo Cahill [jcahill107@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2012 9:51 AM
To: LeeCOLAEIS Resource
Subject: No to nuclear plants in Gaffney, SC

Dear Sir:

I am writing to oppose the construction of two nuclear plants in Gaffney, SC. This is about 40 miles from my home, in Columbus, NC.

My opposition is based on the following:

1. Although nuclear energy is supposed to be efficient, there is much evidence that it is not safe. Accidents at a nuclear plant fall within the quality improvement category of "rare chance of accident", but "devastating effect", if one should occur. I don't believe that our society in the US can even imagine what natural disasters could precipitate a nuclear accident. Witness the tsunami in Japan and the horrors that followed. I'm sure that there was no mention of a tsunami in the Japanese disaster plan. Similarly, US energy companies and their political partners are unlikely to look further than the next election cycle to imagine or plan for the safety impacts of accidents at a nuclear power plant.
2. Corporate greed is another predictable variable that can affect safety of nuclear plants. All the regulations in the world will not prevent a corporation from skimping on safety procedures to maximize profits. There are too many examples in every industry of corporate greed trumping public interest to even list.
3. Perhaps jobs would be created temporarily in building the two plants in Gaffney. Could we not support even more jobs by subsidizing green industries such as solar energy, wind and water?
4. And speaking of subsidizing, why is the public expected to subsidize a risky, expensive investment by Duke Energy? When they finish, if they do, they will still charge the public whatever they want for the privilege of paying for nuclear energy? Duke Energy will profit and the rest of us will pay unwillingly as a matter of regulation. Perhaps one has to be a millionaire to be considered an "investment partner" in a risky venture and reap benefits if it pays off. The public is just being used and will not reap any monetary benefits, but will certainly pay in rate hikes and in risk to health and safety. No increase in power bills for corporations using public money for their own profits!
5. 47 million gallons of water per day is estimated to be taken from the Broad River to operate the plants. This is a time when all governments in all nations are beginning to recognize water as a scarce resource. Returning less than ½ of the water to the Broad River in a warmed, possibly polluted state, is unacceptable.
6. Please oppose the William S. Lee Nuclear Plant.

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"LeeCOLAEIS Resource" <LeeCOLAEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>
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