



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

12/21/2011
76 FR 79228

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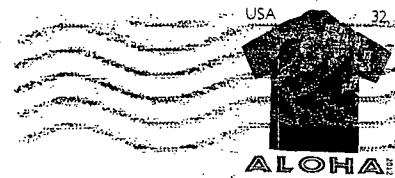
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Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch
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Dear Nuclear Regulatory Commissioners,

Nuclear power plants are dangerous to the environment and the public. After the Fukushima disaster, we learned just how devastating nuclear radiation is to the land, water, people and animals. We still don't know the long term affects of Fukushima's nuclear meltdown. After the Chernobyl fallout, victims are still suffering from debilitating diseases 124 miles from the Chernobyl nuclear plant.

I am writing to oppose Duke Energy's combined license application (COL) to build William States Lee Nuclear power plant in Gaffney SC. Document 76 FR 79228

Building the W.S. Lee Nuclear Plant will:

1. Stress the Broad River & it's habitat by using 47 million gallons of water a day and returning "thermal pollution" back into the river.
2. Create radioactive nuclear waste that has to be stored locally because there is no long term storage solution. Currently there are 145 million tons of waste stored at 77 sites. Out of 104 nuclear plant storage sites, 100 have contaminated soil leading to contaminated ground water. We are leaving the problem of radioactive waste for generations to come.
3. Create strong health risks for human populations of Asheville NC, Greenville/Spartanburg SC, Charlotte NC., and compromise the Broad River, Catawba River, Pacolet River, the French Broad River, and Lake Lure
4. Increase uranium mining operations. Uranium fuel is not a renewable or clean source of energy. Mining not only affects the workers, it affects families as well. Mining releases radionuclide, radon, and other pollutants into streams.
5. Use the AP1000 reactor from fast tracked technology that hasn't been built yet, makes it more dangerous to the public due to unknown variables. Rep. Ed Markey's report from scientist who have investigated the reactor shield and stated it could "shatter like a glass cup" if impacted by an earthquake or other natural or man-made impact. In addition, the independent oversight group Fairewinds Associated listed concerns that the AP1000 design could release radiation directly into the air due to containment issues. Containment issues have been reported in 5 nuclear plants in the United States.

6. Rate payers and taxpayers should not have to pay for a plant they do not want and Wall Street won't touch!

Finally, building W.S. Lee nuclear power plant is unnecessary because the cost of wind energy is now below the cost of nuclear energy. Renewable energy options don't pose a radiation hazard to the public and the environment.

Signature

M. J. Petersen

Date

2-7-12