

## SECYLettersCEm Resource

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**From:** Mary Reed [marysuereed@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 12, 2012 3:54 PM  
**To:** NRCExecSec Resource  
**Subject:** Strengthen or Close GE Nuclear Reactors

It is my understanding that the NRC Commissioners will soon vote on whether or not to require filters and rupture discs on vents used to relieve pressure from containments in a severe accident in nuclear reactors designed and manufactured by General Electric Company.

These Mark I and Mark II reactors demonstrated their vulnerability to such accidents at Fukushima, Japan in March 2011. These reactors suffer from serious and fundamental design deficiencies, provide only a small amount of the nation's electricity, and should be permanently closed due to the dangers of their continued operations.

But nearly two years after Fukushima, the NRC has done nothing to enhance the safety of these reactors. In a severe accident the amount of radioactivity released offsite from an unfiltered vent would be very large and damaging. It makes no sense not to add a filter to protect our families and property from contamination. Filtered systems are available, tested and in use today--for example in Sweden, Germany, France, Switzerland and will be installed on reactors in Japan. We shouldn't have to learn the hard way, as did Japan, the danger of not requiring filters and rupture discs before the accident.

As part of the Fukushima Lessons Learned Task Force, the NRC Staff recommended such filtering. It only makes sense when considering that during normal operations and design-basis accidents gaseous releases are filtered but they are not filtered during severe accidents when the releases offsite would be the greatest. But the nuclear industry has been lobbying against this common-sense measure. One must wonder why they are so safety-averse.

I urge the NRC Commissioners to act soon to permanently close these dangerous reactors. Short of that, I urge the Commissioners to make a statement that public safety is indeed important, and require installation of these filtered vent systems. I call your attention to the comments submitted to the NRC by Pilgrim Watch on this matter.

Thank you.

Mary Reed

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