

SECYLettersCEm Resource

From: Lucia Maxwell [lomax@nettally.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 4:29 PM
To: NRCExecSec Resource
Subject: Strengthen or Close GE Reactors

What is the point of nuclear oversight, of a Nuclear Regulatory Commission, if they don't police the industry and require that reactors be safe for Americans?

We have the same reactors here in America, many of them, that were the cause of the tragedy in Japan. 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.

The NRC Commissioners soon will vote on whether or not to require filters and rupture discs on vents used to relieve pressure from containments in reactors designed and manufactured by General Electric.

These reactors suffer from serious and fundamental design deficiencies, provide only a small amount of the nation's electricity, and should be permanently closed.

Filtered systems are available, tested and in use today--for example in Sweden, Germany, France, Switzerland and will be installed in Japan. The NRC Staff recommended such filtering, but the nuclear industry has been lobbying against this common-sense measure.

It only made 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 .

I urge the NRC Commissioners to act 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.

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