

SECYLettersCEm Resource

From: Ria Tanz Kubota [RIA.TANZ.KUBOTA@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 5:35 PM
To: NRCExecSec Resource
Subject: Strengthen or Close GE Reactors

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 a severe accident in reactors designed and manufactured by General Electric. Having worked for GE and having burned my fingers eight hours a day, five days a week, I do not trust GE to care for anything past profit.

These Mark I and Mark II reactors were in accidents at Fukushima 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.

Two years after Fukushima, the NRC has done nothing to improve the safety of these reactors. In a severe accident radioactivity released from an unfiltered vent would be huge and destructive. 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 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 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 the nuclear industry has been lobbying against this common-sense measure.

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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Federal Register Notice: LTR-12-0782
Comment Number: 806

Mail Envelope Properties (1491643982.5168.1355351683720.JavaMail.tomcat)

Subject: Strengthen or Close GE Reactors
Sent Date: 12/12/2012 5:34:43 PM
Received Date: 12/12/2012 5:34:42 PM
From: Ria Tanz Kubota

Created By: RIA.TANZ.KUBOTA@comcast.net

Recipients:
"NRCExecSec Resource" <NRCExecSec.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office: vweb38.salsalabs.net

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	1968	12/12/2012 5:34:42 PM

Options
Priority: Standard
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Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received: