

## SECYLettersCEm Resource

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**From:** DENNIS R. NELSON, Energy-Environmental Researcher [dennisonelson987@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2013 12:44 PM  
**To:** NRCExecSec Resource  
**Subject:** PLEASE EITHER STRENGTHEN OR CLOSE GE REACTORS!

I am the Vice President of the Chicago-based Nuclear Energy Information Service (NEIS), "Illinois' Nuclear Watchdog Group." I understand that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) Commissioners soon will vote on whether (or not) to require filters and rupture discs on vents used to relieve pressure from containments in a nuclear disaster in boiling water reactors designed and manufactured by General Electric (GE).

These Mark I and Mark II GE reactors demonstrated their vulnerability to such mishaps at the Fukushima nuclear complex [Japan] on March 11, 2011. These reactors suffer from serious and fundamental design deficiencies, provide only a small percentage of our nation's electricity, and should be PERMANENTLY CLOSED DOWN! [Of courses, around our country, we have 23 GE Mark I reactors (including four operating in Illinois--Exelon's Dresden Units 2 and 3, and Quad Cities Units 1 and 2), and 8 GE Mark II reactors.]

However, more than two years after Fukushima, the USNRC has DONE NOTHING to enhance the safety of these reactors. In a nuclear disaster, the amount of radioactivity released offsite from an unfiltered vent would be extremely large and damaging. It makes NO SENSE not to add a filter to protect ourselves and our property from radioactive contamination! Filtered systems are available, tested, and in use right now--for example, in Sweden, Germany, France, Switzerland, and will be installed in Japan. We should NOT have to learn the hard way, as did Japan, about the danger of not requiring filters and rupture discs before the nuclear disaster.

As part of the Fukushima Lessons Learned Task Force, the USNRC staff recommended this sort of filtering. However, the nuclear industry has been lobbying shamelessly against this common-sense measure, concerned more with the size of its bank accounts than our safety!

In conclusion, I urge the USNRC Commissioners to act to PERMANENTLY CLOSE ALL OF THESE DANGEROUS GE REACTORS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!! In the "interim period," the USNRC Commissioners MUST REQUIRE the installation of these filtered vent systems.

Thank You, and Remember Fukushima!

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