

FRANKLIN REGIONAL

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May 7, 1998

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
Mail Stop T3-F-23
US Nuclear Regulator Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

At the regular Executive Committee Meeting of Wednesday, April 29, 1998 the Executive Committee did vote to endorse and support the application of the Franklin Regional Planning Board to participate fully before Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

Please find enclosed, for your records, a copy of the detailed minutes of that meeting pertaining to their vote.

Sincerely,

Daniel B. Hammock
(LG)

Daniel B. Hammock
Chair, Executive Committee
Franklin Regional Council of Governments

DBH:lg
encl.

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FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, April 29, 1998
5:00 p.m.
Room 102

Present: Daniel Hammock, Bill Perlman, John Stobierski, Stanley Gawle, Executive Committee Members; Jay DiPucchio, Council Staff.

Absent: Susan Wright.

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Chair Dan Hammock.

Franklin Regional Planning Board: Adam Laipson Chair, of the Franklin Regional Planning Board (FRPB) presented the Executive Committee with a chronology of the planning boards activities, studies and actions regarding the Licensing Termination Plan. This chronology does cover pretty much all of the documentation that he has. The FRPB, in late February, voted with a strong majority to request a public hearing to review the licensing termination plan at Yankee Atomic Electric Company. They are currently in the process of trying to justify their standing to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that has been established to review these petitions for requesting a public hearing. Adam was looking forward to getting the support and endorsement of the Executive Committee of the Council of Governments to support the actions the FRPB has taken up to this point. Stan Gawle was not in attendance during this discussion.

MOVED: That the Executive Committee of the FRCOG hereby officially endorses and supports the application of the Franklin Regional Planning Board (FRPB) to participate fully before the recently constituted Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (in the matter of Yankee Atomic Electric Company's Docket #50-029-LA ASLSP #98-736-01-LA); and further states for the record that the FRPB is representing the interests of the Franklin County region in this matter. Passed unanimously.

The FRPB is not asking for support or recommendation on any issue specific items regarding the actions at all. We are asking that the Planning Board be allowed to continue in its role as it has been following for the past while to establish standing in these functions and just to be able to discuss and represent the interest of the region and not specifically the Council in this matter. By approving this support it allows the Executive Committee to take part in conversation. It is not endorsing any particular stand at this point.

The Planning Board is essentially requested to have a third party review of the License Termination Plan and the regulatory requirements as far as

being able to participate fully in this process required the FRPB to request this public hearing. There will be no other opportunity for them to have any kind impact or even requesting some kind of additional information without being a party to this process. That is why the FRPB is trying to establish standard.

John Stobierski made a disclosure for the record, "That when I was a County Commissioner, there were issues that came before them. We were conveners of a public meeting as opposed to a hearing. I contacted the Ethics Commission because I represented an individual who was injured on Yankee Atomic Plant land, as working as a subcontractor for a contractor, there is still a pending law suit against them. At that time the Ethics Commission instructed me that there was no conflict, there was no ethics. I am making a full disclosure. I am in a different position now but this issue has arisen for another member of the Executive Committee and I want to make sure things were on the up and up in terms of my participation." This disclosure was so noted.

Dan Hammock explained for people who do not know, and a lot do not, "The FRPB is made up of Select Board members or their representative from each of the 26 towns and Planning Board Chairs or their representative from each of the 26 towns and 18 members at large with a variety of expertise. It may be a lawyer or conservation issues or whatever the expertise may be throughout the region. They are the one and the only diverse group who meets on a regular basis and looks at regional issues in depth and in an orderly fashion. I am not aware of any other group who meets as often or who works as hard to understand the issues. I know of no other group who ought more to be a part of the process than the Regional Planning Board and they have my full support. I have written a letter on my own in their support urging that they be given standing. It is my position firmly that our Regional Council of Governments is very much like a three legged milking stool. If you kick out one leg it is very unstable. If you kick out two legs it is even more unstable. I think we need all three legs of this Regional Government to be as strong and supportive of each other as possible. I certainly support this issue."

Bill Perlman talked about the process and said, "The Planning Board Executive Committee, which meets somewhat more often than the full Planning Board itself, has had a lot of discussion and you can see in the chronology that an awful lot of work has been done, but every decision to move forward on this matter has been brought before the full Planning Board, has been voted by the full Planning Board and the Executive Committee is moving forward with the endorsement and agreement of the full Planning Board. This has been an extremely open and democratic process. There are no individual flights of fancy involved with this. This has been very well considered and very well discussed in endless open meetings.

John Stobierski supports this as well. He explained that, "As a County, as a County Planning Board, and as County Commissioners we were deeply

involved in the decommissioning. Our involvement was extensive. We were commended by representatives of the NRC as a regional organization that took an educated active interest in what was happening there. I think this is a role that is appropriate for the Planning Board. I think that it is a role that is appropriate for the Council of Governments. What happens there can effect everyone in this County some more than others but it can effect everyone so it is a regional issue, it is an issue that is important and the FRPB should have a place at the table and we should be fully supportive of that.”

MOVED: To send these minutes of votes and motions to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board and list provided by Adam Laipson. Passed unanimously.