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Early Site Permit for the PSEG Site; Extension of Comment Period

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General Comment

I strongly oppose the PSEG plan to add new nuclear reactors to a man-made island in the Delaware River. Some issues that are of particular concern to me include:

SEA LEVEL RISE: The existing nuclear complex is already vulnerable to sea level rise and especially storm surge. The complex is built on a man-made island in the Delaware River and issues during storms are already well documented.

The NRC's used 1.5 meters maximum sea level rise in their EIS and risk projections. While 1.5m is considered by scientists to be a reasonable level of increase by the year 2100, neither the NRC nor PSEG have given any indication that they would plan to decommission the existing and/or possible new reactor by that time. In fact, given the extensive life of a nuclear reactor permit (Salem was recently permitted for another 60 years) and the extreme difficulty / high cost associated with decommission and moving decades of lethal nuclear waste, there is no reason to believe that these reactors would be closed or the waste moved by 2100. Therefore, only projecting sea level rise out to that level is shortsighted and potentially very dangerous.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: The communities most near to the proposed PSEG site in Delaware are mostly low to moderate income. The majority of the census tracts within 10 miles of the site are already identified as census tracts of elevated cancer incidence. This is most likely a result of the multiple polluting facilities in a relatively small geographic area.

SUNSI Review Complete

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Add= A. Fetter (ahf)

DELAWAREANS AT RISK: The three existing reactors, Salem reactors 1 & 2 and Hope Creek, are built in the Delaware River. While the address of the artificial island is in NJ, over 80% of the population living with the 10 mile "plume exposure pathway" lives in Delaware.

ENDANGERED/THREATENED SPECIES: The DEIS identifies 4 terrestrial species (3 plant, 1 animal) that are federally listed as endangered; 20 terrestrial species that are state listed as endangered or threatened; and 7 aquatic species that are federally listed as threatened or endangered, as potentially occurring on the PSEG proposed site.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LAND SWAP: As part of the project, it is proposed that a publicly owned dredge disposal area near the existing Artificial Island be swapped for land in the upper river reach, potentially leading to inadequate long term options for dredged disposal in the Delaware City/Listen Point Reach. The proposal is for the Army Corps of Engineers to give PSEG acres of federally owned area, (primarily wetlands) in exchange. This may impact new natural areas or lead to the need for disposal areas along the C&D canal to be refurbished and utilized in conflict with ongoing ecotourism trails and development efforts. Additionally, we are unclear and concerned about the impact that permanent filling of existing wetlands will have on local flooding and wildlife.