

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses and Combined Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations

**Comment On:** NRC-2014-0260-0002

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station; License Amendment Application; Reopening of Public Comment Period

**Document:** NRC-2014-0260-DRAFT-0001

Comment on FR Doc # 2015-01707

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RULES AND DIRECTIVES  
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OF THE  
NRC

## General Comment

When Vermont Yankee nuclear plant shut down on Dec. 29, 2014, the threat to public safety did not end, in fact it may have increased. The temporary spent fuel pool is now holding 4 times as much spent fuel as it was designed to hold (close to 3,000 spent fuel rods), on top of a 7 story building, covered with a thin metal roof. Highly radioactive fuel will continue to be moved through 2020 from the over-packed spent fuel pool high above the reactor, into dry cask storage and we need to be protected.

With VY downsizing its staff, is there enough security and oversight to protect citizens from terrorist threats? And, if we lose power due to severe weather or if the grid goes down for any reason, will the back-up generators be sufficient to cool the spent fuel pool to ensure public safety? These questions are important to consider especially after 9/11 and the disaster at Fukushima, Japan (a plant that was the same Mach 1 Boiling Water Reactor as VY). In fact, the US government advised US citizens in Japan within 50 miles to evacuate.

There are several towns in MA within the 10 mile radius of VY and within their Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ): Greenfield, Bernardston\*, Northfield, Warwick, Leyden\*, Colrain and Gill (\* entire town in the EPZ). Entergy, the parent company of VY, has applied to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for an exemption that will allow it to end funding for the EPZ. The EPZ has in place a protective action plan designed to avoid/reduce potential exposure to radioactive materials, by including sheltering, evacuation, and the use of potassium iodide when appropriate. Also, Entergy has asked for an exemption that would increase the present

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Add= M. Henderson (MAH4)

15 minute warning time to 60 minutes!

We oppose these 2 exemptions, as they affect our safety. The Greenfield Town Council has passed a resolution and other towns within the EPZ have written letters which oppose granting these 2 exemptions, and sent them to the NRC, federal and state representatives and senators, Vermont Dept. of Public Service, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and Gov. Baker.

Please put it on record that we oppose the 2 exemptions that Vermont Yankee is requesting. We support the State of Vermont's efforts to require Entergy Inc, the owner of Vermont Yankee, to continue emergency planning zone coverage for the present 10 mile radius around Vermont Yankee until the spent fuel pool is empty and all highly radioactive spent fuel is in dry cask storage. Also, we are requesting that the NRC deny Entergy's request for an exemption to increase notification time of a problem at Vermont Yankee from the present 15 minutes to 60 sixty.

Submitted by:

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