CHAIRMAN Resource

From: Jared Elgin <jared.m.elgin@student158.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2015 12:48 PM
To: CHAIRMAN Resource
Subject: Nuclear Powerplants

5530 Waterbury Pl
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

March 20, 2015

Stephen G. Burns
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr Burns,

I would like to talk to you about the situation concerning nuclear energy. I, personally, believe that nuclear energy is what should be producing most of the United states' electricity. I learned about how the United States is still mostly using power plants that used fossil fuels. This confused me because I knew that nuclear power plants produce around 40 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, compared to fossil fuels, which produce at least 500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. I looked into it and found a law that said that a new nuclear power plant design had first be proven before it could be tested, and the only way you can really prove that a nuclear reactor worked, is by testing it. This makes sure that no new nuclear reactor designs are built. Also, the public apparently doesn't know much about nuclear power plants, and due to past experiences, automatically assumes it is a bad thing.

For one thing, I know that neither source of energy is renewable, With that in mind I would like to say that I have learned that Fossil fuels, if continued to be used at the speed we are using it, will run out at least by 2088. Nuclear energy is much more efficient, because it doesn't use much fuel to run the power plant. Even after the fuel is used, you can recycle it, and use it over again. If we increased usage of nuclear energy we would use less fossil fuels, and so would reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This in turn, would also allow for less pollution and slow down the climate change the earth is going through.

Concerning some of the issues I have presented above, I have some ideas for solutions. One solution for making it easier to access nuclear energy, would be to change the law concerning new nuclear reactor designs. Changing the law, would allow scientists and engineers to produce even more efficient nuclear reactors, and make them safer in the process. Concerning public opinion on nuclear energy, we could educate the populace on how nuclear reactors are much more efficient and cleaner than fossil fuels. To make testing of nuclear reactors easier, you could do it in barren area's where nothing lives.

To conclude, I believe that the United States should be using nuclear energy, and is restricted because of the public opinion, and the inability to create new, safer, and more efficient nuclear reactor designs. We need to educate the populace on how nuclear reactors are actually safer than how they have appeared to be. We need to be able to create better and safer nuclear reactor designs. Thank you for listening to what I had to say, and I hope to hear from you concerning my E-mail. To reply, this is my email address, jared.m.elgin@student158.org .

Sincerely,
Jared M. Elgin