

## **Rulemaking1CEm Resource**

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# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

**Docket:** NRC-2015-0070

Regulatory Improvements for Power Reactors Transitioning to Decommissioning

**Comment On:** NRC-2015-0070-0001

Regulatory Improvements for Decommissioning Power Reactors

**Document:** NRC-2015-0070-DRAFT-0006

Comment on FR Doc # 2015-29536

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## Submitter Information

**Name:** Rosemary and Cal Wilvert

**Address:**

603 Al-Hil Drive

San Luis Obispo, CA, 93405

**Email:** rwilvert@sbcglobal.net

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## General Comment

I am submitting comments on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commissions Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Docket No. NRC-2015-0070). I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the development of potential changes to the decommissioning process for nuclear power reactors.

First, I would like to respectfully request that NRC extend the comment period for the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) for an additional 45 days, until February 18, 2016. This will give stakeholders necessary additional time to draft and submit comments. The original comment deadline of January 4 is insufficient given the number of federal holidays that fall during the comment period.

Communities that host nuclear power reactors should be actively and substantially engaged in the decommissioning process from the outset. Host communities face a number of significant impacts upon reactor closure including orderly redevelopment of the site, direct and indirect economic impacts related to the loss of employee income and tax revenue, changes in emergency planning requirements and support, and other fiscal impacts related to a major shift in the local economy and employment. I strongly support more direct engagement with host communities in NRCs decommissioning and closure process.

Section V of the ANPRM entitled Specific Considerations asks whether the current role of stakeholders in the decommissioning process should be expanded or enhanced, and how so? The response from communities that host nuclear facilities is a resounding yes. A way to expand engagement is through the establishment of a host community decommissioning task force to advise NRC on community impacts before, during, and after reactor closure. While the ANPRM acknowledges that for most

decommissioning sites, state and local governments are involved in an advisory capacity (as part of a Community Engagement Panel for instance), there is no requirement under current NRC regulations that these advisory panels be formed. As NRC examines potential changes to current regulations, mandating these panels would be an appropriate step toward ensuring local community engagement.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commissions Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Regulatory Improvements for Decommissioning Power Reactors (Docket No. NRC-2015-0070).

Rosemary Wilvert  
Cal Wilvert  
San Luis Obispo, CA