

## OPSMPEm Resource

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**From:** West, Stephanie  
**Sent:** Friday, January 08, 2016 1:34 PM  
**To:** OPSMNPEm Resource; OPSMPEm Resource  
**Subject:** OPA Blog archive for November/December 2015  
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OPA

NRC

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**Sent Date:** 1/8/2016 1:34:23 PM  
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**From:** West, Stephanie

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# U.S. NRC Blog

Archive file prepared by NRC

## FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant to Halt Production in 2016 or 2017

posted on Tue, 03 Nov 2015 17:02:47 +0000

Neil Sheehan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Public Affairs Officer nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Region I nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The James A. [FitzPatrick nuclear power plant](#) has become the latest U.S. commercial power reactor to announce plans to cease operations by the end of the decade. Situated on Lake Ontario, the Scriba (Oswego County), N.Y., facility will permanently shut down either in late 2016 or early 2017, its owner, Entergy, said Monday. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-



04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: As was the case with other plants that have previously disclosed shutdown plans, poor economics fostered by an abundance of low-cost natural gas was cited by the plant owner as a primary driver in the decision-making. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC does not have a role in decisions made by plant owners on continued operations based on economics and other factors. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:FitzPatrick, a roughly 840-megawatt boiling water reactor that came online in July 1975, joins these plants that will be closing in coming years: Pilgrim, in Plymouth, Mass., by June 1, 2019, and Oyster Creek, in Lacey Township, N.J., by Dec. 31, 2019. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant, in Vernon, Vt., generated electricity for the last time in December of 2014. Entergy also owns Pilgrim and Vermont Yankee while Exelon owns Oyster Creek. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:By contrast, an operating license was just [granted](#) last month to Watts Bar 2. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC will continue to provide rigorous regulatory oversight of the FitzPatrick facility. Our inspections will be focused on ensuring plant safety and security for the remainder of its operational life. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:That oversight will include the ongoing presence of two NRC Resident Inspectors based at FitzPatrick on a full-time basis until the reactor is removed from service. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:More information regarding the agency's nuclear power plant oversight activities can be found on the [NRC's website](#).

### Comments

comment #1625453 posted on 2015-11-03 16:41:59 by Moderator in response to comment #1625446

All U.S. nuclear power plants must provide updates to the NRC every two years on the status of their decommissioning trust funds. (Decommissioned plants must do so annually.) The latest update for the FitzPatrick nuclear power plant's decommissioning fund was submitted last March. It indicates that the fund contained \$738.34 million as of Dec. 31, 2014. If a fund does not meet the minimum criteria during our review of the updates, we require the plant owner to remedy the situation through a parent company guarantee or some other financial transaction. Our analysis of the latest submittal found the FitzPatrick fund was in compliance with the criteria. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The

funds are held in a trust and can only accessed with NRC approval. Under NRC regulations, the trustees for the funds are obligated at all times to “adhere to a standard of care set forth in the trust, which either shall be the standard of care, whether in investing or otherwise, required by State or Federal law or one or more State or Federal regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over the trust funds, or, in the absence of any such standard of care, whether in investing or otherwise, that a prudent investor would use in the same circumstances.” nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Decommissioning trust fund regulations and reporting requirements are spelled out in 10 CFR 50.75. http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/cfr/part050/part050-0075.html nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The recent staff report on the status of decommissioning trust funds is available here: http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1523/ML15237A367.html nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Also, now that Entergy has announced their intention to close FitzPatrick within the next five years, they must report annually on the status of their fund. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Neil Sheehan

comment #1625423 posted on 2015-11-03 13:43:51 by The Whole Truth

Another aging nuclear dinosaur relic bites the dust. Do feel bad for those utility professionals who will lose their jobs. How many NRC folks will lose their jobs? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The real good part of the announced Fitzpatrick closure is that it has the same inferior BWR Mark I containment structure that failed to contain much of anything during the Fukushima disaster in Japan. Did you know that not only Entergy but other owners of Mark I containment structures in the US fought the NRC in making an important safety upgrade that was mandated in Japan after Fukushima. A filtered containment vent was required on all identical BWR containment structures in Japan before any plant there could be restarted. The NRC has caved once again to US nuclear power plant owners by not requiring such a filtered vent on US plants. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I just wish that once the NRC Commissioners would actually put public safety ahead of trying to preserve the economic viability of the US nuclear industry. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:It is also interesting to note that these unsafe older nuclear plants cannot compete with low-cost natural gas. A lot of that natural gas is coming from the fracking of shale deposits that are abundance in the US. The environmentalists are happy, of course, with every nuclear plant shutdown. Even though we lose a carbon-free source of 24/7 power each time that happens. Environmentalists though hate fracking too. Even though natural gas burns cleaner than coal. You can be assured, though, that any technological breakthrough that is good for our economy; reduces our carbon footprint; creates jobs for Americans; and greatly reduces our dependence on foreign oil, has to be opposed by tree-huggers!

comment #1625427 posted on 2015-11-03 13:52:08 by steamshovel2002

http://steamshovel2002.blogspot.com/ nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Honestly, you are getting me laughing again, this so call better model is in Pilgrim right now. They took out the dangerous 3 stage and put back in the dangerous 2 stage SRV. Is it Entergy's Irish black humor? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:LER: 2011-003-00: “Review of the as-found test results for eleven Safety / Relief Valve (S/RV) pilot assemblies removed and replaced during the September 2010 Refueling Outage, determined that five S/RVs were outside the allowable as-found tolerance of 1145 psig +/- 3% (+/- 34.3 psig) required by Technical Specification (TS) Surveillance Requirement (SR) 3.4.3.1. “Also, two of the eleven S/RVs tested were found to have excessive seat leakage to the point where as-found testing could not be performed.” nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I'll bet you right now Fitz, Pilgrim and Hope Creek are in an ignored required tech spec shutdown right now! Be shutdown within 24 hours requirement. It is as if the NRC got their eyes and ears closed. They got too many SRVs inop. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Think of all the good people in these below documents that walked by this without a peep? All these highly technically educated and experienced employees? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:References nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:1. JAF Condition Report CR-JAF-2015-02493, Root Cause Evaluation, Seven S/RV Pilots Failed As-found Testing nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:2. JAF Condition Report CR-JAF-2013-04098, Two S/RV Pilots Failed As-Found Testing. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:3. JAF Condition Report CR-JAF-2007-02108, Root Cause Analysis Report, Seven of ten S/RV pilots failed as-found testing (testing high out of tolerance). nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:4. JAF Technical Specification 3.4.3 nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:5. JAF Technical Specification Bases 3.4.3 nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Fitz is too crooked and deceptive to be at power right now.

comment #1625440 posted on 2015-11-03 14:50:31 by CaptD

RE: "The James A. FitzPatrick nuclear power plant has become the latest U.S. commercial power reactor to announce plans to cease operations by the end of the decade. Situated on Lake Ontario, the Scriba (Oswego County), N.Y., facility will permanently shut down either in late 2016 or early 2017, its owner, Entergy, said Monday." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Closing by the end of the "decade" is not late 2016 or even early 2017... nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:What is a few years for Entergy at how many millions of dollars per year, oh I forgot the NRC is not worried about how much ratepayer money is spent, just operational "safety". nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The Nuclear Industry uses the disconnect between cost to ratepayers (regulated by the State) and "Operational Safety" (regulated by the NRC) to game the system to their benefit since both Regulators tend to point their regulatory finger at the other one when any Utility issue come up. This became apparent in CA when SCE played one regulator against the other in order to coverup the CFR 10.59 loophole that SCE used to install in-house designed faulty replacement steam generators which failed soon after being installed, which is going to cost CA ratepayers billions of dollars instead of SCE's shareholders! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:NRC Idea: Give Fitz an unscheduled special inspection with inspectors that are from outside that NRC Region and I bet Entergy will then decide, just like SCE did after #SanOnofreGate \*) to close the facility early so as to avoid further NRC and public disclosures about the facility. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\* The new hashtag that will allow you to keep up to date on the ongoing investigation into the multi-billion \$ SCE-CPUC ripoff.

comment #1625446 posted on 2015-11-03 15:22:06 by stock

@Mod---How much money does Fitz have set aside for decomm? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Is this money under their direct control, or is it safely escrowed, and all withdrawals must be approved ahead of time. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Thanks

comment #1625416 posted on 2015-11-03 13:28:24 by Mike Mulligan

http://steamshovel2002.blogspot.com/ nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:You can see how safety conscience the NRC is through this LER. The NRC was recently whining in a Fitz inspection report about Entergy not calling a leaking SRV rate conservative. The leak rates limits used by this industry and Energy are set too high to prevent SRV setpoint pressure drift. Duh! There is outright malicious fraud all over the industry with the 2 stage and 3 stage safety relief valves and the NRC doesn't use their power to put a stop to it. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:To be even more funny, Fitzpatrick wants to go to the death star Pilgrim's 3 stage SRVs where Entergy removed these from the plant because they were unsafe. Pilgrim and Fitz, I make the case also, Hope Creek, all their SRVs are all identical models. They all got abhorrent LER and operational records. Honestly, Entergy must have a sense of dark humor. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:How can the history of Fitz's SRVs setpoint drift not be adverse to quality? How can you not predict a majority of the time when a plant is in operation... that plant operation is prohibited by plant licensing and tech specs? It is not safe and acting conservatively the majority of the operational time. This is the tip of the iceberg. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML15212A272 nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:LER: 2015-002: Safety Relief Valve Upward Setpoint Drift nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:"Since seven of the eleven pilot valves were not within the allowable setpoint tolerance, a condition prohibited by the plant's Technical Specification existed during operating Cycle 2" nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I'll bet on the second SRV going inop the plant is required to be shutdown. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This is basically a heavy indicator Entergy is dishonest and deceptive. Entergy doesn't tell us how many SRVs need to be fully operational per tech spec. They neither disclose the actual setpoint lift pressure which failed the valve. All of the other plants disclose this information in their atrocious setpoint drift LERs. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\nusrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Come

on, think about all the Inop SRVs in in this below list? Never once called adverse to quality and openly contested by the NRC. Never once bothered to make these guys fix these dangerous and unreliable valves. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Similar Events nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:1. JAF LER-11-003 "Safety Relief Valve Setpoints Outside Allowable Tolerances," August 8, 2011 nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:2. JAF LER-09-005 "Safety Relief Valve Setpoint Drift," June 22, 2009. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:3. JAF LER-07-001 "Safety Relief Valve Setpoint Drift," August 6, 2007. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:4. JAF LER-05-002 "Safety Relief Valve Setpoint Drift," June 6, 2005. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:5. JAF LER-03-002 "Safety Relief Valve Setpoint Drift," October 16, 2003. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:6. JAF LER-01-005 "Safety Relief Valve Setpoint Drift," August 17, 2001. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:7. JAF LER-99-003 "Safety Relief Valve Setpoint Drift," March 16, 1999.

comment #1625457 posted on 2015-11-03 17:15:45 by stock in response to comment #1625453

Thanks Neil. Great explanation of the process. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Please respond to: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:1) It seems like there are a lot of industry estimates that peg a plant recomission at around \$2B. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:2) There is assumption of "growth" of the fund via investment, this leads to an assumption that dealing the decommissioning is "better" because the fund is allowed to grow. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:3) What rate of growth does the NRC allow plant owners to use in their future cash flow projections? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:4) Can we get a copy of the "standard of care" that Entergy has in the trust fund documents, and what is the name of their trust fund and what entity administers it? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Thanks

comment #1625829 posted on 2015-11-05 09:10:43 by Moderator in response to comment #1625457

Decommissioning cost estimates are highly site-specific. In the case of the FitzPatrick nuclear power plant, a preliminary estimate is that about \$1.1 billion would be needed for decommissioning work. However, Entergy will need to submit a Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) within two years after the plant shuts down that contains more details. With respect to rate of growth, plant owners can take credit for up to a 2-percent annual real rate of return, a level that is conservatively set. A copy of the Master Decommissioning Trust Agreement for FitzPatrick can be found in the NRC's online document system: <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1005/ML100500726.pdf>.

comment #1625834 posted on 2015-11-05 09:33:07 by Moderator in response to comment #1625612

The utilities operating U.S. nuclear power plants are in the best position to discuss their costs for Fukushima-related safety enhancements. That being said, the staff estimates costs associated with the Mitigation Strategies Order are approximately \$24 million/site; this Order was issued under the adequate protection justification and therefore costs were not considered. The staff estimates costs associated with the Severe Accident-Capable Vents Order are approximately \$5 million/site (\$2 million Phase I, ~\$3 million Phase II); this Order was issued under the "substantial additional protection" justification [10 CFR 50.109(a)(3)], which takes costs into account. The staff estimates costs associated with the Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Order are approximately \$4 million/site; this Order was issued under a Commission exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 50.109. The staff estimates voluntary industry initiatives associated with the lessons learned from Fukushima have totaled approximately \$750,000/site. The proposed rule on mitigating beyond-design basis events includes a full regulatory analysis. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Scott Burnell

comment #1626153 posted on 2015-11-06 14:13:44 by steamshovel2002

The black swan event is Pilgrim's part 21 SRV bellows failure. The insanity is we assume it would leak before failure. The only reason a warning of a bellows failure in the control room is through the lessons we learned in TMI. Remember their PORV valve only showed if the solenoid was energized or not? It showed nothing if the valve was open or not. If the operators in the control room had direct indication of PORV valve flow, TMI wouldn't have happened. Not getting a leak warning before failure such as in Pilgrim's SRV part 21 bellows failure and the undiscoverable massive inop SRV setpoint tech specs inaccuracies in Fitz reminds me of the blindness with poorly instrumented up PORV valves just prior to TMI. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Here in the Pilgrim's part 21 the bellows failed without any warning. The bellows hi pressure warning. This guy was run for a full cycle in the plant. They removed it and sent it to a testing facility. Up at pressure on the stand or bringing to pressure they heard a pop. It was a bellows failure. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I am here to tell you the quality and reliability safety component is extraordinary important in a nuclear plant. The quality of the information the control room has on the condition of components and plant processes in extraordinary important.



01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Yep, the safeties discharge to the drywell. Just like a LOCA on steroids. How long could we even see reactor vessel level with all the decay heat going out the safeties? How long would it take to get to 350 psig for LPCI? I hope HPCI and RCIC works? Say you saved the plant from damaged. You still destroyed the industry. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: See how hard this for the insiders to grasp this? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\*\*\* back up, how did you get 10,000 ? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:safeties will probably work, but are much higher, like 1300. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The problem is pressure nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:it would cause RPV flange leaks, nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:maybe blow out some packing and seals. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:So what would you feed the vessel with at 1300 psig? The CRD system. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:But you didn't answer the question of how this scenario would play out without the SRVs and Safeties? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Mike Mulligan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Hinsdale, NH nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://steamshovel2002.blogspot.com/

comment #1625929 posted on 2015-11-05 16:43:18 by in response to comment #1625829

OK, that 2% sounds pretty fair. When you say "real" rate of return, I assume that means 2% above the rate of inflation, please confirm then that it is 4%, with an assumed inflation target of the fed of 2%

comment #1625660 posted on 2015-11-04 16:43:11 by Ray Lutz

These nuclear plants are the largest blunder every made by mankind. Taking care of the waste for thousands of years for production of a little electricity for a few decades is hardly a reasonable bargain. The plants -- even if you ignore the cost of dealing with the waste -- are not even close to penciling out from an economic standpoint. Right now, they are running about 2x the market price for power most of the time. Wake up!

comment #1625637 posted on 2015-11-04 13:51:23 by Mike Mulligan

I never "got" that nuclear industry rule. In order to belong to the group "nuclear industry", it was required you had to be a card carrying anti governmentalism guy? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Mike Mulligan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Hinsdale, NH

comment #1625604 posted on 2015-11-04 10:45:28 by Mike Mulligan

Just out today: everyone wants to know why this is coming out six weeks late? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:SECONDARY CONTAINMENT DIFFERENTIAL PRESSURE EXCEEDED TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION ALLOWED VALUE nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:"On September 22, 2015, with James A. Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Plant operating at 100 percent power, the Emergency and Plant Information Computer (EPIC) indicated a spike in Secondary Containment differential pressure during performance of a surveillance test associated with automatic initiation of the Standby Gas Treatment System. Plant data systems recorded Secondary Containment differential pressure exceeding the Technical Specification allowed value. The Secondary Containment differential pressure was at or above zero inches of water for approximately ten (10) seconds, and then immediately trended negative following auto-start of one of the trains of Standby Gas Treatment. An operator was subsequently dispatched to the ventilation control panel, and verified that Secondary Containment differential pressure was more negative than the Technical Specification allowed value. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:"This condition was entered into the Corrective Action Program, and subsequently, it was determined that the approximate ten second duration that Secondary Containment differential pressure was greater than the Technical Specification allowed value was reportable pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72(b) (3)(v)(C), as an event or condition that could have prevented fulfillment of a safety function. Secondary Containment was Operable following reestablishment of greater than or equal to 0.25 inches of water vacuum, and remains Operable." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Mike Mulligan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57 \usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-



## Browns Ferry: A New Milestone in Nuclear Plant Fire Protection

posted on Tue, 10 Nov 2015 13:59:52 +0000

Barry Miller nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Senior Project Manager, Fire Protection Branch nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57  
\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The NRC recently marked a milestone with the transition of the Browns Ferry nuclear power plant to the National Fire Protection Association's Standard 805 (NFPA 805). The [license amendment](#), issued October 28, is significant because it marks 23 reactors at 15 plants to have completed the transition since 2010. It is symbolically important because a fire at Browns Ferry in March of 1975 prompted the NRC and the industry to focus on fire safety at nuclear power plants. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-  
post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:



The Browns Ferry fire started when a worker used a candle to test

airflow around a temporary penetration seal in the cable spreading room. The flame ignited the temporary seal material, and the fire spread to the reactor building where it burned many of the cables in systems required to safely shut down the plant. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Although plant operators were able to shut the plant down safely, the event led the NRC to promulgate prescriptive fire safety requirements (10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R). For example, plants were to ensure there was at least 20 feet of separation between trains of redundant safety systems. However, this requirement was impractical for some plants that had already been built, so in many cases licensees had to find an alternative means of achieving an equivalent level of safety. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57  
\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: “The fire at Browns Ferry in 1975 was a turning point for the nuclear industry,” said Bill Dean, director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. “It put a spotlight on the risk fires can pose to nuclear safety. Many safety improvements have been made industry-wide since that time, but the adoption of NFPA 805 represents perhaps the most significant undertaking in fire safety since the institution of Appendix R. This transition means Browns Ferry has performed a full re-analysis of the fire risk at its three reactors and identified the most efficient and effective means to protect its most fire-sensitive areas.” nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The NFPA 805 is a performance-based means of using advanced fire analysis tools to assess the risk of fire at various areas of a nuclear power plant. That way, a plant's fire protection scheme can be customized to focus on the most risk-significant areas and to protect the reactor's safety systems. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-  
post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57  
\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Using the NFPA 805 standard is optional. Newer plants constructed after 1975 were typically built to the prescriptive requirements. So they may opt to remain under those requirements, contained in 10 CFR 50.48 and still be in compliance with the agency's fire protection regulations. Although NFPA 805 offers certain advantages from a risk-informed perspective, both methods provide reasonable assurance that a plant would be able to cope with a serious fire. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The following plants have now completed the transition to the NFPA 805 fire protection standard: Shearon Harris; Oconee 1, 2 & 3; D.C. Cook 1 & 2; Duane Arnold; Callaway; Fort Calhoun; V.C. Summer; Cooper; Nine Mile Point 1; Turkey Point 3 & 4; Farley 1 & 2; Brunswick 1 & 2; Palisades; Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 2; and Browns Ferry 1, 2 & 3.

## Comments

comment #1627115 posted on 2015-11-10 14:04:05 by CaptD

Older NPP's should be required to date their Fire Protection to the newest requirements since they are even more prone to have fire related issues because off their age. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC is in effect allowing them to be "sub-standard" (as compared to newer NPP) which puts everyone at risk.

comment #1627321 posted on 2015-11-11 08:46:59 by Dan Williamson in response to comment #1627115

There IS a process to initiate new regulations. If you don't like the backfit rule in its current form, go change it. Or is it just more fun to squat here and grouse about it?

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## Preparing for Subsequent License Renewal

posted on Fri, 06 Nov 2015 18:13:26 +0000

Albert Wong nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Division of License Renewal nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC's operating licenses for commercial nuclear power reactors are valid for 40 years and may be renewed for an additional 20 years at a time. So far the agency has renewed 78 licenses and has applications for another 16 under review. We received the first license renewal application in April 1998, and we're expecting to receive the last application for a first renewal sometime after 2020. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Today, Dominion Virginia Power announced that it expects to submit a subsequent license renewal application in 2019 – a renewal beyond the 60 years of operation from the first license and the initial renewal -- for Surry Power Station. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Subsequent renewal applications will be reviewed under the same regulations ([10 CFR Part 54](#)) as the initial renewals. That means they will get similar scrutiny for both safety (focusing on how the plant operators manage the effects of aging on certain plant components) and environmental impacts. There will also be opportunities for public input and hearings. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Of course, operating plants beyond 60 years may raise different technical issues for us to address in these reviews. So we are drawing on our experience with the initial license renewals, plant operating experience, ongoing research, and expert opinions to identify strategies for dealing with the challenges of extending operation to 80 years. Two draft guidance documents will be published in December 2015 for public comment. They are "Generic Aging Lessons Learned for Subsequent License Renewal Report" and the "Standard Review Plan for Review of Subsequent License Renewal Applications for Nuclear Power Plants." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The final guidance documents – including responses to public comments and explanations of any changes from the drafts – will be published in time to support our review of subsequent license renewal application. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Plant operators applying for subsequent license renewal will need a detailed technical basis, along with associated research and "aging management programs," to demonstrate how they will keep their plants operating safely during the additional 20 years. The NRC staff will give these applications the same thorough reviews we give initial renewals. We expect the reviews will take about two years, though the quality of the applications could affect the schedule. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC is proactively preparing for anticipated subsequent license renewal applications and stands ready to ensure the continued safety of operating plants once applications are received. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

## Comments

comment #1627578 posted on 2015-11-12 14:46:17 by CaptD

Yet another comment post here: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-wp-blm-virginia-surry-b72187de-84a5-11e5-8bd2-680ff868306-20151106-story.html> nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57

\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Snip nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This is a PR move to build BUZZ about "extending the life span of old reactors! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Since each reactor is a 30 to 40 year income stream for its owners and their shareholders BEFORE they get yet access to another 20 to 40+ years of decommissioning funds, the electricity from these reactors will be too expensive to use as compared with the ever lower prices of Renewable Energy that are dropping almost monthly. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Lets talk money ( Factual comment from the internet): nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The powers that be have learned that the way to transfer the most wealth to themselves is to create bubbles, then blow them up, bankrupting others, and then buy things up on the cheap. Exactly the plan in the housing bubble of 2005 et al. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Now turn your thoughts to Solar PV. It is a serious threat, enough of a threat that the nuclear industry is spending \$1.4B to spread propaganda, influence law makers and regulators to destroy the solar industry. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:So next year, 2016, there will be a rash of laws, restrictions on net energy metering agreements that let homeowners and businesses tie in to the grid, and utility rate structures that discourage solar. This will bankrupt 80% of solar related companies and injure the rest. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Then nuclear and oil companies will buy up the remnants on the cheap, and then they will spend billions to promote "safe, large scale, solar farms owned by them", and rape the public with continued high energy costs, whilst hardly pacifying the continued slave class by telling them "good work now you guys are green". nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Lets talk health: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://www.globalresearch.ca/prolonged-exposure-to-even-low-level-radiation-increases-the-risk-of-cancer-world-health-organization-who/5485386

comment #1627573 posted on 2015-11-12 14:17:30 by Anonymous

WOW, license renewal round 2: Watch out, notwithstanding 78 of already granted and watching current holders working their way barely into round 1 of the renewal period. We are talking of 80 Years of operating life, i.e. double the original design life. Common sense tells that aging units will tread into time-limited aging domains and into limiting endurance zones, reconciled with the reality of irreplaceable/inaccessible core hardware. Au contraire utilities, in putting the best business foot forward to the stakeholders, are attempting to rake in renewal guarantees 20 plus years ahead of the need. In hind sight, these round 2 renewals rightfully ought to have been on a "Prove as you Go basis." So a broad brush "ongoing research, and expert opinions (hopefully)" alone is not going to be sufficient; rather, integrated surveillance program based on real field data specific to nuclear units will be mandated, rigorously applied into calculations and safety reviews completed hence. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This is not business as usual, but Unusual folks!!

comment #1627569 posted on 2015-11-12 13:41:10 by CaptD

I see this as a Promotional Nuclear gesture since 2019 is a long way off and literally anything can happen between now and then. The nuclear Industry is now spending over a billion dollars on PR to try and make itself look better, so why not wave the ♠ flag and proclaim that the life of yet another aging reactor will be extended, along with the decommissioning fees and everything else the ratepayers will have to also foot the bill for. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I challenge the NRC to list all the items that will also be required to be "updated" that ratepayers will get billed for. Without that info, how can anyone determine what the most cost effective decision, since Dominion Virginia Power is primarily focused on their bottom line and keeping as many of their ratepayers as they can.

comment #1626184 posted on 2015-11-06 17:16:27 by Troy Martel

Given the obsolescence issues surrounding analog/relay/solid state technologies, will renewing a license for an additional twenty years force those plants to install digital controls and safety systems by default? If so, how will the NRC be able to review license amendments, audit designs and plans, project management, installation and testing in a timely manner for some 90 plants?

comment #1630282 posted on 2015-11-25 02:18:45 by Nathanael in response to comment #1627578

Utility company attacks can't stop solar; full off-grid solar + batteries is already cheaper than grid power in Australia and other countries will follow soon. With the plummeting price of solar power and the dropping price of batteries, nearly everything else is about to become obsolete. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Hopefully the NRC will start actually regulating nuclear plants for safety once it is understood that they are commercially obsolete. We can hope.

comment #1630272 posted on 2015-11-25 01:23:20 by Nathanael

"hat means they will get similar scrutiny for both safety (focusing on how the plant operators manage the effects of aging on certain plant components) and environmental impacts. There will also be opportunities for public input and hearings." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:In other words, you will absolutely ignore all issues of aging plant conditions, pay no attention to safety, ignore all public input, and rubberstamp every single application? \*Because that's what you did with the 60-year renewals\*. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Many of the plants given renewals were closed anyway, at which point it was discovered that there were lots of aging component problems not previously identified, which have to be addressed during decommissioning. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:It would be correct to make a presumption that no plant shall have its license renewed to 80 years without a complete shutdown, dismantling, examination of all components, redesign to the most recent safety standards, and reconstruction. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:There is no other way to determine whether components which have been irradiated for 60 years are still structurally intact; we know that long-term radiation exposure causes structural damage to many metals and concretes, but we have very few examples of materials subjected to 60 years of such stress, and as a result we really don't know how much damage is done without dismantling and materials testing.

comment #1627289 posted on 2015-11-11 06:17:30 by Public Pit Bull

I think the NRC is headed in the wong direction. We instead need a "clunker junker" program for these aging unsafe nuclear power plants!

comment #1626862 posted on 2015-11-09 13:28:19 by Moderator in response to comment #1626184

License renewal, including subsequent license renewal, does not address digital instrumentation and control (I&C) issues. So no, plants would not be required to convert to digital as part of renewing their license. Digital I&C issues are being addressed separately (<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/research/digital.html>). If a licensee wants to switch to digital I&C, it would need to apply for a license amendment, but this would not be part of the license renewal review. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Albert Wong

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## Writing Rules on Lessons Learned From Fukushima

posted on Fri, 13 Nov 2015 15:06:58 +0000

*Timothy Reed* nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: *Project Manager* nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: *Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation* nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC is moving forward in making permanent some of the lessons we've learned from the Fukushima nuclear accident. The Commission has directed the staff to seek public comments on a [draft proposed rule](#) for mitigating "beyond-design-basis events," which can be stronger than a plant's design anticipates. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The Commission made a few changes to the proposed rule, which consolidates several of the most safety significant recommendations of the NRC's [task force report](#) from shortly after the events at Fukushima. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:One of the Commission's changes involves Severe Accident Management Guidelines, or SAMGs, which a plant would use in responding to very unlikely accidents. The Commission directed that the plants will continue implementing those guidelines voluntarily. Each plant will document a commitment to keep their SAMGs up to date and integrate SAMGs with other emergency response guidelines. The NRC will provide periodic oversight of SAMGs through its Reactor Oversight Process. Another Commission change to the proposed rule removes proposed design requirements for new reactor applicants. Instead, the new reactors would be subject to the same performance-based criteria that applies to the currently-licensed fleet. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The proposed rule would apply the requirements of two existing orders, [Mitigation Strategies \(EA-12-049\)](#) and [Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation \(EA-12-051\)](#), to any operating or future U.S. nuclear power plant. The Mitigation Strategies Order ensures that if a plant loses power, it will have sufficient procedures, strategies, and equipment to indefinitely cool the reactor core and spent fuel, as well as protect the reactor's containment. The Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Order requires the plants to ensure they can monitor spent fuel pool water levels. These two orders are already being implemented across the nuclear fleet. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The proposed rule addresses other task force recommendations by: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

- Establishing standards that ensure plants smoothly transition between different emergency procedures, keeping the plants' overall strategies coherent and comprehensive;  
nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

- Enhancing emergency response requirements so sites can address events involving more than one reactor or a reactor and spent fuel pool;  
nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:
- Requiring training, drills and exercises on the new capabilities;  
nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

- Improving onsite and offsite communication, and  
nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:
- Ensuring sites have enough staff to address a multi-reactor event  
nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The rule also incorporates information from the plants' reevaluated earthquake and flooding hazards. Each plant's mitigation strategies used to meet the rule's requirements must remain available in the face of the reevaluated hazards. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The staff expects to provide a proposed final rule to the Commission in December 2016. The NRC staff expects the rule, if approved, would be effective approximately two years later, with the exact date varying from plant to plant. Although that may seem far away, keep in mind much of the rule is already required by the two orders. Nearly all U.S. plants will comply with those orders by the end of 2016. Safety is being enhanced well before the final rule. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The public can comment on the draft proposed rule until Feb. 11, 2016. To view the proposed rule or submit comments, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2-14-0240. You may also e-mail comments to [Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov](mailto:Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov). The staff is also planning a public meeting during the comment period, and we'll post the meeting notice on our [public website](#). We look forward to hearing from you. (Just a note, comments to this blog post are not considered official NRC communication. Please use the other methods above if you wish your comments to be formally considered.)

## Comments

comment #1628110 posted on 2015-11-14 21:26:38 by Half-TruthSlayer

NRC please be open & honest w us! Tell us the the things you have refused to do to protect us Americans from a Fukushima-type disaster in this country. Examples, nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: You have bowed to the nuclear industry in that you are not requiring nuclear power plants to implement measures to prevent a Fukushima accident here but to only better mitigate one when it occurs. After the TMI disaster in this country you required extensive measures to prevent such an accident in the future. I guess accidents have to happen here for you to get serious about protecting us. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Japanese officials required that a filtered, hardened vent be installed on nuclear plants there to reduce the amount of radioactivity released to the public in an accident before any plant there could be restarted. Again bowing to the US nuclear industry you required no such modifications to susceptible plants here. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: You have taken no action to reduce the amount of spent fuel stored at over 90 sites in the US. Fortunately the Japanese did not overload their storage pools like we have in the US or that accident would have been even worse. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Finally NRC, just one question. Whose side are you on?!

comment #1627794 posted on 2015-11-13 13:07:13 by stock

Has the NRC adopted any rules to mitigate the chances of a Prompt Moderated Criticality? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-

2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:For example, outlawing the use of MOX plutonium fuel

comment #1627917 posted on 2015-11-13 22:51:49 by Turd Ferguson

The NRC should be wise to the shenanagins of stock and CaptD, two hardened antinukes. These questions posed by these posers are inane.

comment #1627816 posted on 2015-11-13 15:17:01 by Moderator in response to comment #1627794

The NRC's regulations include protections against inadvertent criticalities, not only in operating reactors and spent fuel pools (General Design Criteria in Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 50), but also fuel cycle facilities (Subpart H to 10 CFR Part 70) and dry cask storage. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:All U.S. nuclear power plants are only loaded with enriched uranium fuel. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Scott Burnell

comment #1627831 posted on 2015-11-13 16:50:56 by CaptD in response to comment #1627816

The High Burn Up fuel has no approved casks as yet and is a perfect example of the NRC "putting the cart before the horse" since the NRC has OK'd their use in order to increase the power from Utility reactors (along with their profits) before there is an approved waste cask for them, which is now causing a problems with San Onofre's decommissioning, since the Operator wants to use unapproved casks that are guaranteed to last. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:See more about High Burn-Up fuels and the problems generated by allowing its use: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://sanonofresafety.org/nuclear-waste/ nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:♣ Issues with dry cask storage for San Onofre Nuclear (Waste) Generating Station - Donna Gilmore nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLr0WR5oSjU&feature=em-share\_video\_user

comment #1627834 posted on 2015-11-13 17:05:32 by stock in response to comment #1627831

Ya, Captain, I hear they want to leave those casks on the ocean edge, that seems very irresponsible. But coming from the company of "like for like" I can believe it.

comment #1630408 posted on 2015-11-25 11:59:11 by Chris in response to comment #1628110

It's the way of government to only be REACTIVE and not PROACTIVE. This holds true to most major catastrophes can otherwise be avoided. Our govt had intel on both 9/11 and Boston Marathon attacks, and they did NOTHING until after the fact. Kind of does warrant the question, "whose side are they on??"

comment #1628520 posted on 2015-11-16 15:04:39 by Anonymous

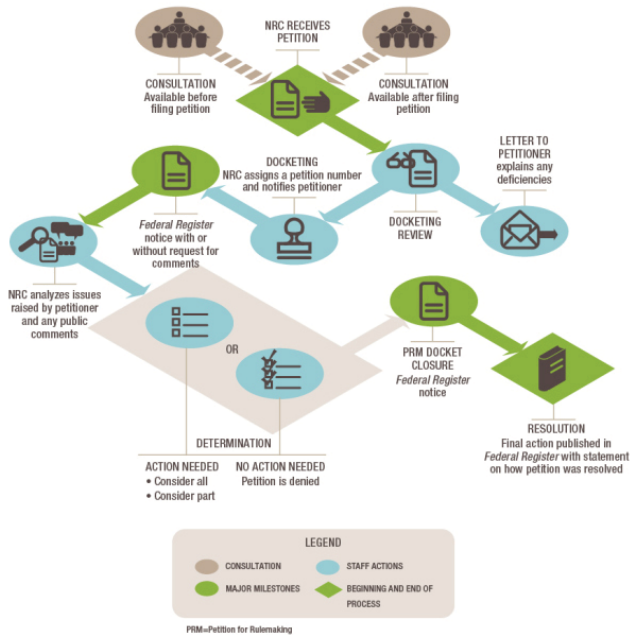
In August 2015 by not codifying the requirement into law by a rulemaking and disapproving alternative 2 & 3 to Order EA-13-109 \*, the Commission effectively drove a nail into the usefulness of the JLD task force. The draft rule is such a farce and a sad ending to a Fukushima SAGA. I laud the staff's valiant efforts to date in implementing JLD task force report recommendations through enforcement actions, field walk downs and ongoing staff oversights. But all that now is in vain, when the NRC as a champion of world Nuclear Safety, waffles in not implementing all that in a final rule for perpetuity. Alas, all the ongoing horror that unfolded over that week in March 2011 will fall wayside similar to TMI and Chernobyl, when world witnessed four butler buildings blow off in clockwork precision. The Rule is a sad post script that the NRC as a regulator failed to write, and thus force a firm regulatory hand on action on the one action that mattered most - to remedy a weak cinder block containment. And yet, we have 22 of those vintage museum pieces still operating with impunity without a fix. Indeed, we do have abundant band aid fixes in what remains in this rule, no doubt, and we threw the baby with the bath water!!! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:So then, the two enforcement orders which the agency is generically attempting to implement through this Rule is hardly a rule and not worth commenting and Tim's Blog would have been just sufficient. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:At least the rule acknowledges that the health and safety benefit to the public is minimal, meaning implementing the Rule is not going to reduce the risk or according to the pundits is indeterminate!!! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\* Interim Staff Guidance JLD-ISG-2015-01, remedies to Hardened Vents and Filtration for accident mitigation for BWR containment following Fukushima type accident here in the U.S.

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## Our New, Improved Petition for Rulemaking Process

posted on Tue, 17 Nov 2015 15:30:51 +0000

Jennifer Borges nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Regulations Specialist nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57  
 \usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:  
 TYPICAL PETITION FOR RULEMAKING PROCESS



After several years of work, the NRC has [issued](#) a final rule that amends the process we follow whenever someone asks the agency to issue new rules or change existing ones. We call this our petition for rulemaking (PRM) process, and it is described in sections [2.802](#) and [2.803](#) of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*. The [final rule](#) became effective Nov. 6. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:As we said in our previous blog, [“You Can Ask the NRC to Change Its Rules”](#) (May 2014), the revisions expand a petitioner’s access to the NRC by allowing consultation with our staff both before and after filing a petition for rulemaking. The revisions also restructure and clarify the content requirements for a petition for rulemaking; clarify our evaluation criteria; explain our internal process for receiving, closing, and resolving a petition; and update information for tracking the status of petitions and subsequent rulemaking actions. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:So that you can better understand how to submit a petition, the NRC staff has updated the [rulemaking petition process](#) website and posted a new [backgrounder](#) that explains the PRM process in plain language. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Anyone needing help with the process may [contact the NRC](#). The NRC staff can describe the process for filing, docketing, tracking, closing, amending, withdrawing and resolving petitions for rulemaking. The staff also can provide status information. Our [Petition for Rulemaking Docket](#) website also has status information on all petitions for rulemaking dating back to 1999. The petitions are organized by the year they were docketed. You can visit this website to check on issues that may interest you. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Incidentally, when we “docket” a petition, it means the petition and all related documents will be put in an electronic file for the public to read. We docket only the petitions that include the required information, raise an issue that warrants further consideration and ask for a change that is within the NRC’s legal authority. After the petition is docketed the NRC begins to evaluate the issues the petitioner raises to determine if they should be considered in rulemaking. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC currently has 20 petitions under review. In 2015 so far we have docketed six PRMs. Three address whether to change the basis for our radiation protection standards. The others deal with whether “important to safety” needs to be better defined; whether the NRC should require temperature monitoring devices in the core of nuclear power reactors; and whether to make certain optional risk-informed regulations more widely available. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:If we are taking comments on a petition, there will be a “comment now” button that takes you to a Web form you can use to communicate with us. You can even receive an alert when something is added to the docket. To subscribe, click on the docket link, then click “sign up for email alerts” on the right-hand side. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:We were recognized last year for our work in educating the public about how to submit a petition. A November 2014 [report](#) to the Administrative Conference of the United States applauds the NRC for regularly communicating with petitioners and reporting on the status of petitions. We hope you agree and find our new rule makes our process even better. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-

2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

## Comments

comment #1630269 posted on 2015-11-25 01:18:01 by Nathanael

There is a history of licensees violating the rules; the public reporting this; and the NRC refusing to follow up, or inventing its own rules to avoid even listening to the reports of licenses violating the rules. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Frankly, why should we trust you to enforce any rules you make? You've ignored massive safety concerns repeatedly in the past, and gone out of your way to suppress and ignore legitimate problems. You have repeatedly bent over backwards to extend the licenses of plants where the operators have a long record of safety violations, including San Onofre, Vermont Yankee, Pilgrim, and Nine Mile Point -- many of which closed anyway for economic reasons. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:You need to do something to prove that you're not owned wholesale by the nuclear industry any more. A method of making petitions to force the NRC to enforce the official rules regarding the conditions for license renewal, rather than disregarding all evidence and rubberstamping all license renewals, would be more useful.

comment #1629328 posted on 2015-11-20 15:50:00 by CaptD

The sad fact is that NRC "Rules" have been and are going to be determined by Congress, since they have oversight of the NRC. Gone are the days when Congress spent most of its time looking for poor spending habits instead of what we have now, which is Congress working harder than ever to remove as many regulations as possible for their Nuclear Industry donors. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Yucca Mountain is a perfect example of good science saying N☪, yet Congress thinks it knows better because they are primarily interested in continuing to receive ever more Nuclear Payback\* from their donors. This is exactly what caused Fukushima, yet the NRC is now going down the same sad regulatory road. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Another example is SCE who self designed replacement steam generators then ran them outside their NRC approved "red line" which led to the multi-billion destruction of San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant. The NRC only gave them a "white finding" with no financial penalty partially because the NRC was part of the problem by allowing SCE to use 10CFR 50.59 instead of 10CFR 50.90. The May 13, 2013 NRC Atomic Safety Licensing Board (ASLB) ruling was crystal clear, SCE management violated the 10CFR 50.59 and General Design Criterion 14 during the design and operation of replacement steam generators, which lead to the retirement and decommissioning of San Onofre Units 2 & 3. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\*  
<http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Nuclear+payback> nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Those that support nuclear power because nuclear power somehow supports them; no matter what the health implications or other "costs" are for others.

comment #1628673 posted on 2015-11-17 11:20:44 by Nikohl Vandell

I appreciate the NRC's diligence in their work. I agree with the public pit bull on the rules and their use in this rather rogue industry. I think this nu commitment to creating, amending and changing the rules will give the people footing who see the way to craft a nuclear policy that empowers humanity rather than threatens them as the Nuclear Industry does today. Thank you @NRC for your work and to your teeth to wrestle the most powerful people on the planet to think differently than they want to sometimes. => #fuqafukushima #ClimateAction

comment #1628669 posted on 2015-11-17 10:42:04 by Public Pit Bull

New rules a total waste of time with the NRC as you do not enforce the ones you have on the books already. In fact you have avoided important rulemaking by allowing the nuclear industry to come up their own initiatives which you know are not rigorous and cannot even be enforced. Plus you have relaxed regulations at the industry's request. Why have rulemaking when you allow rule-breaking?!

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## NRC Carefully Assessed Issues Associated with New Pipeline at Indian Point

posted on Thu, 19 Nov 2015 13:37:14 +0000

Neil Sheehan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: *Public Affairs Officer* nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: *Region I* nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Mention nuclear power plant and new natural gas pipeline in the same breath and it may not be surprising if some ears perk up. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-





31.status-publish.001.xml:

Such was the case with a plan by Spectra Energy to install a 42-inch-

diameter natural gas pipeline that would cross a portion of the [Indian Point nuclear power plant](#) site, in Buchanan, N.Y. One of the most salient questions to arise has been whether a rupture of the pipeline could adversely impact the safety or shutdown of the two operating reactors at the site. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The NRC’s conclusion, based on a thorough peer-reviewed analysis, is no. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: First, however, it’s important to understand the limitations on the NRC in this complex interstate project. The agency’s role is restricted to ensuring the safe operations of the Indian Point facility; we cannot usurp the roles and responsibilities of other federal, state and local government agencies. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Other agencies involved in the proposed pipeline expansion include the [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission](#) (FERC), which is the lead agency for evaluating applications to construct and operate interstate natural gas pipeline facilities; the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration of the [Department of Energy](#); and the [Environmental Protection Agency](#). There are also many state and local government agencies that have separate responsibilities. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Indian Point has for decades had two natural gas pipelines – one 26 inches in diameter and the other 30 inches – running through the property. The Algonquin Gas Transmission Co., a subsidiary of Spectra Energy, built the 26-inch line in 1952 and the adjacent 30-inch line in 1965. Operating licenses were granted to Indian Point Units 1, 2 and 3, in 1962, 1973 and 1975, respectively. The new line would be installed across a more southerly section. (Plans also call for the 26-inch line to be removed from active use at the time the new line begins operating.) nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The 42-inch line would not be located within the plant’s Protected Area – the highly secure section where the reactor buildings, spent fuel pools and other key structures are located. Instead, it would traverse the site about a quarter-mile from the Unit 2 and 3 reactors. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: There will also be special precautions to enhance the safety of the piping that will be located closest to Indian Point to further limit the already very low potential for a gas pipeline rupture. For one, the steel pipe will have a wall thickness of almost three-quarters of an inch and will be buried at least 4 feet deep, under engineered backfill. The line will have additional corrosion protection and all of its welds will be carefully examined. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Reinforced-concrete protective mats will also be placed over the section of the pipeline closest to Indian Point, providing additional physical protection. Warning markings will drive home the message that excavation in that area is a bad idea. Accidental ruptures during excavation work are one of the most frequent causes of pipeline failure. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Entergy Nuclear Operations Inc., the plant’s owner/operator, was required under NRC regulations to perform a site hazards analysis to evaluate how plant operations could be impacted by a rupture of the pipeline. The company determined the plant could safely shut down and, more broadly, that the pipeline would not pose an undue risk in terms of the facility’s safe operation. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The NRC did not accept this analysis at face value. The agency conducted an independent confirmatory analysis. This evaluation, which assumed a complete rupture of the pipeline, concluded the plant could either continue to safely operate or temporarily shut down. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: In addition, NRC inspectors performed visual assessments of the proposed pipeline routing to confirm assumptions used in Entergy’s analysis report. They also reviewed the qualifications of the contractor who carried out the company’s analysis and that Entergy’s acceptance of the report was consistent with its quality assurance program standards. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:



nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: A discussion of the NRC’s inspection and analysis can be found in an inspection report issued on Nov. 7, 2014. In it, the NRC staff states that “the staff determined Entergy had appropriately concluded that the proposed pipeline does not introduce significant additional risk to safety-related structures, systems and components at Indian Point Units 2 and 3, and therefore the change in the design bases external hazards analysis associated with the proposed pipeline does not require prior NRC review and approval.” nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57/usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:



control over the design, construction or operation of the gas lines and claims this is the responsibility of other Federal agencies and not the NRC's problem nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:11. There has been no risk analysis conducted calculation the social and economic consequences of a gas line event and the impact on the area surrounding Indian Point. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:12. Mr. Sheehan claims a "peer review" but will not allow a risk analysis conducted by OSHA's Appendix C to §1910.119 -- Compliance Guidelines and Recommendations for Process Safety Management nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:13. The NRC openly admits it did not review other gas line events such as San Bruno and never reviewed and of the numerous NTSB reports on gas line explosion investigations. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This is just a partial overview of some of the problems associated with these gas lines at Indian Point. I expect an ACRS meeting on this topic in the very near future.

comment #1629476 posted on 2015-11-21 15:31:07 by Paul Blanch in response to comment #1629207

I have direct communication from the NRC acknowledging there is no firefighting capability either onsite or offsite. I am willing to share this 25 page letter

comment #1629959 posted on 2015-11-23 14:28:22 by Paul Blanch in response to comment #1629891

There are a lot of good and talented people within the industry. The problem is that they are afraid to come forward for fear of retribution by the NRC or the utilities. I have been contacted by NRC people who are afraid to go public in support of this issue. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This whole gas/nuclear problem and the manner it is not being addressed is insane. What else can I do?

comment #1629891 posted on 2015-11-23 11:00:36 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1629840

Dr. Bill, I still believe, perhaps too naively, that there are a lot of good folks on both the regulator & regulated side of the nuke industry. They are trying to do the best they can by an inherently dangerous technology. The technology is horribly unforgiving of mistakes. It requires constant vigilance as the late Admiral Rickover stated many years ago. I feel complacency has set in, in our industry and the belief that it just cannot happen here. We did the right thing when TMI happened here decades ago, but if something happens overseas, like Fukushima, it is somehow not given the same attention as if it had happened in our backyard. And that is tragic!

comment #1629914 posted on 2015-11-23 12:38:50 by Paul Blanch in response to comment #1629432

pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1528/ML15287A257.pdf nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Read the NRC response. I have met with the Chairman, 2 Commissioners, OIG, two US senators and two Congresspersons the director of the Office of Investigations, the NY Governor's office and now awaiting major media coverage coming out on November 30. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I have requested a meeting/Presentation before the ACRS. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I will be responding to the NRC's letter prior to the Chairman's visit to Indian Point on December 7, 2015. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Bottom line nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:NRC---Nobody Really Cares

comment #1629989 posted on 2015-11-23 16:54:53 by drbillcorcoran in response to comment #1629476

Paul, nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Thanks. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Can you supply a link to it? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:If not, can you post some excerpts?

comment #1629990 posted on 2015-11-23 16:55:28 by drbillcorcoran

· Mistaken Trust nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:An inescapable fact is that the competent investigation of every harmful event reveals that the causation of the harm includes the mistaken/ naive/ unwarranted/ gullible/ imprudent trust in one or more erroneous/ untrustworthy assumptions, procedures, processes, people, and/or conditions. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Examples? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Counter-examples? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Better wording?

comment #1629296 posted on 2015-11-20 11:32:07 by Momma, PhD

If the NRC did such a bang up job, why did the Union of Concerned Scientists ask the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to consider having the commission's independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards review the process and criteria used to assess potential hazards from natural gas pipelines close to nuclear reactors at Indian Point in Buchanan and Turkey Point in Florida? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://www.lohud.com/story/news/2015/09/02/scientists-seek-pipeline-review/71536340/ nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Also, how in God's name could the public be expected to trust a risk assessment that includes illegible diagrams, literally, on scratch paper submitted to the formal record? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://sape2016.org/2015/07/16/nuclear-regulatory-commission-withheld-and-misrepresented-critical-information-used-to-evaluate-and-approve-the-siting-of-the-spectra-aim-pipeline-alongside-indian-point/

comment #1629302 posted on 2015-11-20 12:02:57 by in response to comment #1629258

PLEASE visit [www.sape2016.org](http://www.sape2016.org) and take action suggested on homepage of calling Gov. Cuomo to have him get from FERC a Stay on AIM construction, rescission of AIM approval certificate, to conduct an independent, transparent and comprehensive public safety and risk assessment of siting this massive gas pipeline insanely at Indian Point nuclear facility, and to make a very public statement calling for these actions!

comment #1629317 posted on 2015-11-20 14:33:01 by Paul Blanch

I received a response (FOIA 2016-0104) today requesting a copy of the NRC's risk calculations referenced in its letter to me of November 6, 2015. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The FOIA branch responded that they could not locate any such calculations that were cited by the NRC to demonstrate there is no additional risk to Indian Point due to the gas lines. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This is not, as Paul Harvey would say "the end of the story." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I would appreciate other opinions, especially from those at the NRC including Neil Sheehan.

comment #1629840 posted on 2015-11-23 06:35:50 by drbillcorcoran

- Character nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:An inescapable fact is that the character of an industry is largely a reflection of the character of its regulators, and, of course, vice versa . Competence, integrity, compliance, and transparency or their lack seldom exists on only one side of an industry-regulatory interface .

comment #1629499 posted on 2015-11-21 20:43:14 by CaptD

If both IP and Spectra Energy had to each post a \$40 billion bond, you can bet that the pipeline would get rerouted. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Next...

comment #1629432 posted on 2015-11-21 06:54:02 by drbillcorcoran in response to comment #1629317

Mind boggling. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:How can this happen? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Where's the IG? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Where's the GAO? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Where's the Commission?

comment #1629207 posted on 2015-11-20 00:38:56 by Maureen Healy

Anyone can tell this pipeline is sited way too close to the Indian Point nuclear plant and its spent fuel. God forbid, were a rupture to occur at that juncture, the resulting fireball could take out mechanisms critical to shutting down the nuclear operation. Nuclear engineers continue to question NRC about this exact point, and have not been satisfied with NRC's lack of response. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Have we learned nothing from Fukushima? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Gas pipelines are potentially explosive. While such explosions are infrequent, they are not unheard-of: 1,796 serious explosions involving death and/or injury did occur in the twenty years between 1994 and 2013. The resulting human toll (682 dead and 2,646 injured) was as low as it was, because most pipelines transverse sparsely populated areas. But that is not what we are talking about with this AIM pipeline, here in Westchester. You don't need to be a climate change believer or an opponent of fossil fuels, to know that this pipeline does not belong here--within striking distance of a nuclear plant. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usrncblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-

31.status-publish.001.xml:Siting the AIM pipeline here invites an almost unthinkable amount of risk. NRC loses all credibility in assigning such risk to 20 million of us and then asking us to understand the bureaucratic limitations under which they made their evaluation.

comment #1629209 posted on 2015-11-20 00:55:32 by healymum

Hard to believe a careful assessment of this situation would result in approval. Gas pipelines do occasionally explode, and were this to happen at Indian Point, critical shut-down mechanisms might be compromised. Are local firefighters prepared to fight a gas-fed fire next to radioactive spent fuel? Nuclear plants are risk enough, we should not compound the risk any more than necessary. Siting the AIM pipeline HERE invites too much risk. Have we learned nothing from Fukushima?

comment #1629275 posted on 2015-11-20 09:22:27 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1629259

Wow Paul, thanks for sharing. How much more proof is necessary that the NRC is not an industry watchdog but an industry lapdog!

comment #1629276 posted on 2015-11-20 09:25:09 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1629258

Additional info that shows that the NRC is not looking out for public safety!

comment #1629278 posted on 2015-11-20 09:29:46 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1629207

So glad we still have folks out there with the expertise and willingness to take on a lax regulator. The NRC refuses to learn from worldwide operating experience. Only if we lose more precious lives in this country will they do anything. The NRC is truly a tombstone regulator!

comment #1629099 posted on 2015-11-19 09:20:18 by Public Pit Bull

Thanks NRC for publishing information that will alert any and all terrorists to yet another prime target at a nuclear power plant. I had no idea that there were already natural gas pipelines through the facility. I just wish the NRC would look as hard at the threat Indian Point (IP) poses to New York City as it has looked at how this new pipeline poses a threat to Indian Point. IP has a terrible safety track record and its emergency plan is not considered adequate to protect the millions of people located in its backyard. It will continue to be a prime terrorist target. It is criminal to think the NRC would extend this plant's operating license!

comment #1629103 posted on 2015-11-19 09:36:38 by drbillcorcoran

What keeps a San Bruno from happening at IP? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Pages/PAR1101.aspx

comment #1629116 posted on 2015-11-19 11:39:34 by gmax137

Regardless of the safety evaluation, why would Entergy set themselves up for criticism, another "talking point" for the anti-IP crowd? Seems like it would have been a lot simpler if Entergy had simply told Spectra Energy "no." Is there some kind of eminent domain thing here?

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## When A Strike is a Possibility at a Plant

posted on Tue, 24 Nov 2015 14:28:16 +0000

*Diane Screnci nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Senior Public Affairs Officer nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Region I nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Unionized workers at the James A. FitzPatrick nuclear power plant in Oswego, N.Y. recently voted to accept a new contract days before the current pact was to expire. The union representing operations, maintenance and radiation protection staff and Entergy, the company that owns the plant, reached a new four-year agreement. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:While it was good news to learn an agreement had been reached, the agency had been tracking the status of the negotiations all along and was prepared to oversee that the unit would be operated safely during any job action. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:We have procedures to make sure the owner is taking all of the appropriate steps to ensure continued safe operation in the event of a strike. For example, as a contract expiration is drawing near, the NRC Resident Inspectors assigned to the site and specialist inspectors from the Regional Office in King of Prussia, Pa., review the company's contingency plans for staffing and other actions to prepare for a strike. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:We don't get involved in contract negotiations. We ensure that the requirements of the facility's license and technical specifications are maintained at all times. At FitzPatrick and other plants facing an impending contract expiration, NRC inspectors ensure all emergency plan positions are properly staffed and that qualified licensed operators operate the plant. They also review the qualifications of replacement workers to verify they were properly trained to step in. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:In the event of a strike at any plant, the NRC Resident Inspectors would be*

supplemented by additional NRC inspectors to provide round-the-clock NRC inspection coverage for the first 48 hours. We'd have continued additional site coverage for at least the first two weeks. If need be, we could continue enhanced inspector coverage for as long as necessary.

## Comments

comment #1630910 posted on 2015-11-27 11:11:57 by CaptD

The NRC needs to address this "safety" concern at once, because to only add additional inspectors is akin to looking the other way... Contract disputes create lingering frustrations and that can easily lead to "problems" which then threaten the operation of the facility and thereby the rest of US. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Unless the NRC is seen as a fair and impartial 3rd party, the NRC will always be considered on the side of the Operator, especially since the NRC has a practice of sharing "private" submissions by plant employees to the NRC with Plant management, which makes workers reluctant to speak up because they will get discriminated against or worse, black balled! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This happened at San Onofre NPP. Long time employees had their nuclear careers destroyed because they spoke up about safety at a time when the Operator (SCE) was trying to coverup both its failed replacement steam generator design and its operational mistakes that led to the radioactive leak on 01/31/12. These mistakes shut down the plant for good, since SCE chose to not determine the root cause because it would have identified they poor design and operational errors as the cause. The NRC was only too happy to end its own root cause investigation, they did not want to publicly admit that Region IV was part of the problem, since they allowed SCE to use the 50.59 like-for-like replacement part "loophole" instead of the 50.90 which would have exposed DVE faulty replacement steam generator (RSG) design to public scrutiny, saving ratepayers many billions of dollars. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:It must also be said that SCE's CA State regulator (CPUC) also played a major role in covering for SCE's mistakes in what is now know as #SanOnofreGate \*. Here is the latest Media release: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Subject: Governor Brown--Obstruction of Justice at San Onofre nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Greetings: Design flaws that caused the 4 new steam generators at the San Onofre nuclear plant to fail in January 2012 were known to Edison executives before the machines were installed. As the generators were being designed, knowledge of the defects was being recorded in Edison letters, e-mails, meeting minutes, action item lists, internal memoranda and in a root cause report issued after the generators quit working. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The steam generators failed before Edison obtained California utility commission approval to put their costs permanently into rates. If it was discovered Edison executives deployed the steam generators after Edison was on notice of their defects Edison would have to absorb over \$5 billion in losses. Under law, utility customers had the right to a notice and hearing before customers could be forced to pay the \$5 billion bill. As part of a judicial like proceeding the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) announced in October 2012, Edison's customers had a right to obtain the evidence showing Edison's knowledge of the defects. Customers had a right to present and cross-exam under oath Edison officials about the evidence at a hearing before the commission. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:By early December 2012 an Edison executive and a CPUC administrative law judge presiding over the case were plotting to stall the hearing and suppress the report showing Edison's knowledge of the defects. In February 2013 a U.S. Senator released the report showing Edison was on notice of the defects before the machines were deployed. In March 2013 the CPUC's President, the CPUC Energy Division chief, and Edison's long-time general counsel met secretly in Warsaw, Poland and agreed to make utility customers pay most of the damages the failed steam generators caused. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:In late May 2013 U.S. Senator Barbra made public two letters showing Edison executives were on notice of the defects before the generators' were deployed. On 6 June 2013 Edison recruited Governor Brown to aid their plot to keep the CPUC from allowing customers to show Edison was on notice of the defects before the new steam generators were started. Governor Brown agreed and immediately issued an Edison friendly press release. Brown appointees approved the plan to kill the CPUC investigation into Edison's conduct and making Edison customers pay more than 70% of the damages. Governor Brown's staff had a least 65 secret written messages in a proceeding in which "ex parte" communications were prohibited. A former staff member Brown appointed CPUC president had 63 secret communications regarding the San Onofre proceeding. While customers were seeking to enforce their Public Records Act request for the Brown and Picker secret CPUC communications Brown vetoed a bill that would have helped the customers obtain the documents. Senator Boxer called for a criminal investigation. A Superior Court judge found there was probable cause to believe felonies have been committed. A search warrant executed at the former CPUC President's house unearthed notes recording the secret pact made in Warsaw, Poland. In the famous Watergate case the culprits slipped up because they obstructed justice (a crime) in connection with the investigation into the burglary at the Watergate office building. In this case the culprits have repeated the error. They have obstructed justice by suppressing evidence, and rigging the CPUC proceedings to deny utility customers the opportunity to present evidence showing Edison was on notice of the defects in the steam generators before they were installed at San Onofre. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Michael J. Aguirre, Esq. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\* The hashtag about the ongoing investigation into the multi-billion \$ SCE-CPUC ripoff.

comment #1630135 posted on 2015-11-24 11:47:41 by Half-TruthSlayer

Nuclear plant operators should never be allowed to strike. It is akin to air traffic controllers going on strike. It puts public health & safety at risk. Putting additional & totally unqualified NRC inspectors at a nuke site during a strike would be as useful as rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic!

comment #1630143 posted on 2015-11-24 12:46:07 by Public Pit Bull

I do not know the union(s) that represent nuclear power plant employees at the Fitzpatrick Nuclear Power Station owned and operated by Entergy. I only know from my very old experience at a publicly-owned and operated nuclear power plant in the Midwest, that the three unions that represented our hourly employees there, had no problem whatsoever with a so-called "no strike clause" in our contracts with them. The unions worked with management and both parties agreed that a strike at our nuclear plant could jeopardize public health and safety. It just made perfect sense. Evidently, over the years at some plants, including those operated by Entergy, those contracts allow the unthinkable, allow public health and safety to be put at risk if a strike occurs. How sad that Entergy and perhaps other nuclear plant owners have allowed this to happen. And to think that the nuclear industry's regulator has no rule prohibiting a strike at a nuclear power plant is unconscionable!

comment #1630704 posted on 2015-11-26 16:31:54 by havalandırma

Thanks for sharing has been a very useful

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posted on Wed, 25 Nov 2015 16:45:55 +0000



### Comments

comment #1630911 posted on 2015-11-27 11:15:23 by CaptD

Roger, Wilco and Out. [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml):+ [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml):A Salute to everyone working to protect our safety over the Holidays

comment #1630433 posted on 2015-11-25 13:45:01 by Charles Wilhem

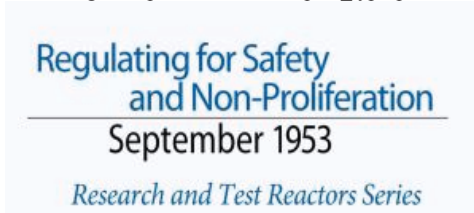
I am complying [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml): [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml):Sent from my iPhone [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml): [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml):

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## Moments in NRC History: Regulating for Safety and Non-Proliferation, Part II

posted on Mon, 30 Nov 2015 16:49:03 +0000

*Thomas Wellock* [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml):*Historian* [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml): [nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\\_00\\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\\_type-post.start\\_date-2015-11-01.end\\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml](http://nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14_00_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post_type-post.start_date-2015-11-01.end_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml):



Part I of our Research and Test Reactor Series looked at the promise and unique safety

challenges of research reactors, beginning with North Carolina State's first civilian-owned reactor in 1953. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:In [Part II](#) of our video series, we look at how the focus on safety of these reactors evolved into a concern about their security. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The Atomic Energy Commission (the NRC's predecessor) had developed design requirements for research reactors with large safety margins that tolerated errors. Extensive training and supervision was required of licensed operators. Sabotage was foiled by making the reactors' uranium fuel difficult to remove or destroy. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:However, weapons proliferation became a persistent concern. Reactor designers favored fuel highly enriched in fissionable uranium-235. Uranium-235, however, was also the stuff of atomic bombs. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Initially, the AEC only permitted export of reactor technology with low enrichment, but in the 1960s, it granted international requests to U.S. manufacturers for high performance research reactors. The reactors needed only small quantities of enriched fuel, and it was believed bilateral agreements and regular inspections would assure the used fuel was returned to the U.S. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:But events in the 1970s – including India's detonation of a nuclear device made possible with fissionable material from a Canadian research reactor -- demonstrated the limits of this approach. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Lowering the fuel enrichment was seen as a viable solution. In 1978, the Department of Energy launched a program to develop a low enriched fuel that met the performance needs of research reactors. In the U.S., operators of 20 research reactors opted to switch to low-enriched fuel. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:



nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:After the 9/11 attacks, the United States launched the Global Threat Reduction Initiative to accelerate the conversion to low-enriched fuel. Twenty-seven reactors around the world, including six in the United States made this conversion, taking out of circulation enough fissionable material to make 20 crude bombs. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC also pursued enhancements against sabotage and theft with better staff background screening, access controls, security searches, and coordination with emergency responders. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The decline of the nuclear industry since the 1970s and the production of isotopes abroad have reduced the need for research reactors in the U.S. Their numbers have dwindled to about 30. This brought a new concern -- the vulnerability of the nation's isotope supply for medical uses, especially molybdenum-99. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The video explores how that vulnerability is being addressed and how the NRC continues to ensure research reactors operate safely in today's threat environment. I hope you'll take the time to watch the [video](#).

## Comments

comment #1632993 posted on 2015-12-03 15:24:36 by For the record

To keep the historical facts straight and to put things in perspective, it must also be said about the Indian CIRUS Research reactor it does not use U-235 (the bomb stuff), but the natural uranium and the Canadian design nick named CANDU – that is - natural uranium fuel (U-238, not fissile U-235) which is fissionable (by neutrons) when moderated by heavy water. Also, that CIRUS was not under IAEA safeguards (which did not exist when the reactor was sold), although Canada stipulated, and the U.S. supply contract for the heavy water explicitly specified, that it only be used for peaceful purposes. Thus the as the blogger rightly says, exporting nuclear technology for research of course is fraught with nonproliferation concerns and the end use does not justify whatever the method. CIRUS produced some of India's initial weapons-grade plutonium for the nuclear test in 1970s from the discharged spent natural Uranium. In fairness to the Indian government it is also a historical fact that, in accordance with the Indo-US nuclear accord reached recently between Indian Prime Minister and US President George W. Bush the reactor was shut down on 31 December 2010.

comment #1632955 posted on 2015-12-03 13:24:38 by CaptD

If only the NRC/DOD/DOE would publish how much ☛ material has been given, sold, gifted or just plain stolen from the US, so that other countries could begin their own nuclear programs, then we might become more understanding of Regulating for Safety and Non-Proliferation. I believe that it is widely known that both Japan and Israel are just two of the countries that have gotten ☛ from the US, I bet that are many more.

comment #1631869 posted on 2015-11-30 13:19:28 by Forrest J. Remick



Good video. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:For the record: A decision was made in 1963 to convert the Penn State Nuclear Research Reactor from HEU to LEU. This was completed in 1966, which I believe was the first such conversion of a research reactor in the US (World????)

comment #1631887 posted on 2015-11-30 15:05:50 by Moderator in response to comment #1631869

Yes, Penn State certainly claims this in their historical documents. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Tom Wellock

comment #1631851 posted on 2015-11-30 11:58:04 by Nikohl Vandel

The PROBLEM isn't our creativity, it's our waste. Without recycling and using all the power we are given from the earth and her gifts, we are not effective as a species and now that ineffectiveness is threatening our survival. #fuqafukushima has taught us our entire old way needs to stop before another accident happens again. If we can survive Fukushima's continual meltdown, we need not worry about two of them at once. #ShutDownDiabloCanyon, please. I LOVE these articles, I learn a lot more about the nuclear industry. Thank you. Hugs.

comment #1632424 posted on 2015-12-02 08:50:00 by

Well, what I don't like about nuclear nonproliferation activities with our government, parts of this has been blighted my mindboggling cover-ups such as the megatons to megawatt program and the forced federal takeover nationwide with the deposition of used nuclear fuel. Greed and political agendas took priority over doing what is best for the nation. The idea the majority of the electricity from US nuclear power plants was from corrupt Russian uranium supporting a corrupt government. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Mike Mulligan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Hinsdale, NH nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml>Note: Moved by the Moderator

comment #1635395 posted on 2015-12-11 09:23:19 by Clarify For the record in response to comment #1632993

I think that natural uranium contains a small percentage of U-235 which is the primary fissile material in a CANDU reactor. The use of heavy-water minimizes neutron losses (absorption) and results in a more effective neutron population for fissioning the small amount of U-235 contained in natural uranium.

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## REFRESH -- Transporting Spent Nuclear Fuel: How Do We Know It's Safe?

posted on Thu, 03 Dec 2015 15:49:37 +0000

Mark Lombard nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Director, Division of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-



31.status-publish.001.xml: As the country wrestles with how to manage the highly radioactive fuel left over from generating nuclear power, one question often comes up: "how do we know we can transport it safely from reactor sites to other locations for storage, testing or disposal." For one thing, we periodically assess the risks. For another, spent fuel shipments are strictly regulated and have not released any radioactive materials since they began more than 30 years ago. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Our [most recent risk assessment](#), published in 2014, confirmed that NRC regulations for spent fuel transport are adequate to ensure safety of the public and the environment. As more data become available and computer modeling improves, these studies allow the NRC to better understand the risks. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Both the NRC and the U.S. Department of Transportation oversee radioactive material transport. DOT regulates shippers, vehicle safety, routing and emergency response. The NRC certifies shipping containers for the more hazardous radioactive

materials, including spent fuel. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: To be certified, a container must provide shielding, dissipate heat and prevent a nuclear chain reaction. It must also prevent the loss of radioactive contents under both normal and accident conditions. Containers must be able to survive a sequence of tests meant to envelope the forces in a severe accident. These tests include a 30-foot drop onto an “unyielding” surface (one that does not give, so the cask absorbs all the force) followed by a 1,475-degree Fahrenheit fire that engulfs the package for 30 minutes. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The 2014 *Spent Fuel Transportation Risk Assessment* modeled the radiation doses people might receive if spent fuel is shipped from reactors to a central facility. The study found: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

- Doses along the route would be less than 1/1000 the amount of radiation people receive from background sources each year nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:
- There is a 1 in 1 billion chance that radioactive material would be released in an accident nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:
- If an accident did release radioactive material, the dose to the most affected individual would not cause immediate harm nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The *Spent Fuel Transportation Risk Study* examined how three NRC-certified casks would behave during both normal shipments and accidents. It modeled a variety of transport routes using population data from the 2000 census, as updated in 2008. It used actual highway and rail accident statistics. It considered doses from normal shipments to people living along transportation routes, occupants of vehicles sharing the route, vehicle crew and other workers, and anyone present at a stop. And it used state-of-the-art computer models.

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The 2014 study builds on earlier studies of transportation risks. It uses real-world data and equipment in place of generic designs and conservative assumptions. The first [study](#), done in 1977, allowed the NRC to say that its transport regulations adequately protect public health and safety. Other studies done in [1987](#) and [2000](#) found the risks were even smaller than the 1977 study predicted. Together with analyses we perform on major transportation accidents, these studies give the NRC confidence in the safety of spent fuel shipments. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: For more information on how the NRC regulates spent fuel transportation, click on our [backgrounder](#). nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: REFRESH is an occasional series where we revisit previous posts. This originally ran in September 2013 nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

## Comments

comment #1633008 posted on 2015-12-03 16:18:59 by Mike Mulligan

See, this is nuclear waste materials is owned and produced by a private entity. It's not even partially owned and controlled by the federal government. So why does a US government regulator become the public relation spokesperson on nuclear waste issues? Can't the government wait to open your mouth until you actually own and control the material? Why aren't the owners of this waste the primary spokesmen... the public know these are the guys in control to the waste. We hold you businesses and real owners responsible!!! You made it, you bury it? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: When the government speaks for a private entity you are lending the government's credibility to a private businesses or the nation is consuming our credibility for a private business. These businesses hate your guts and are fighting the government tooth and nail. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: You are doing the same thing on the plant operational side. The US government is increasingly lending our credibility... our nation's credibility... disproportionately on a specific industrial sector. The NRC is increasingly becoming the nuclear industry's plant public relation spokesman. You are excessively promoting the industry. We focus on blaming the government when a private business fails cause that is the only people we see and hear in this? The nuclear industry and the plants knows the liabilities of explaining and defending themselves publically. Cause then the public holds them accountable for what they say or neglect to say and do. The safest thing for these nuclear company's is just to say as little as they can. Then never risk their own credibility unless they are forced too. They never volunteer to be openly accountable, democratic and transparent... nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The government has an infinite reservoir of credibility, so the NRC becomes/defaults into the promotor public relation spokesman for all the nuclear industry and nuclear plants.

Why doesn't the US government become the primary promotor public relation spokesman of all corporations and businesses against the weak and the poor? Is that a upside-down government or what? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Let the giant US government take the hit of their credibility for the nukes, my credibility and your credibility and the US governments credibility. I just want to know what our government gets for this favor? Remember most these giant corporations and plant employees have very little respect for their great nation in the bowels of their corporate offices and nuclear plants. They spend the majority of their high income lives trying to tear down and speak down the US government in any way they can. Our government. Your neighbor's government. My government! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I live in the greatest nation on the planet! My state I am not so sure. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Mike Mulligan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Hinsdale, NH

comment #1632943 posted on 2015-12-03 12:24:07 by Gary L. Clark, P.E.

Excellent points. However, there is one additional regulatory test per 10 CFR §71.73 that the package is to be dropped onto a fixed, 6-inch diameter steel bar in the worst orientation after a 30-ft free drop prior to being exposed to the engulfing 30-minute 1,475 F fire event. The puncture bar drop test is to strike any point of the package, including any of the damage sustained from the 30-ft free drops. Following all of these tests, the package cannot leak any of the radioactive material contents to the environment or affect public health and safety. As noted in this post, radioactive materials, including spent fuel, have been safely transported world-wide for over 30 years without ever releasing their contents with packages that meet these regulatory requirements.

comment #1632957 posted on 2015-12-03 13:36:43 by CaptD

Good article but ONLY if you are happy with the "1 in 1 billion chance that radioactive material would be released in an accident." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Anybody want to venture a guess of what the odds against a triple meltdown at Fukushima? I bet it was far higher than 1 in 1 billion, yet not only did it happen but it is still "Happening." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:This is what make nuclear far different from other "accidents" and why so many are so skeptical of everything about Nuclear since the nuclear industry continues to fight every safety upgrade as unnecessary, and far too often the NRC grants them a "pass"!

comment #1633618 posted on 2015-12-05 03:40:34 by Public Pit Bull

Please stop touting the safe transportation of high level waste when there is no place to send it?! All that waste sits in the backyards of millions of Americans. How utterly irresponsible is that!

comment #1639421 posted on 2015-12-30 06:31:19 by Rabby

It's great to be able to say that in 30 years there have been no safety incidents but people don't truly feel reassured by that because there is always the one-in-a-million chance that something catastrophic could happen. But that applies to all areas of life. The fact is that no one transports this spent fuel without due care and attention – there is more information about that on this site <https://www.nae.edu/Publications/Bridge/RadioactiveWasteDisposal/TheCurrentStatusSafetyandTransportationofSpentNuclearFuel.aspx> . The way to bring down the risk further is to decrease the reliance on nuclear power by developing viable alternative energy sources.

comment #1632921 posted on 2015-12-03 11:09:07 by agencia de viajes en caceres

How do we know its safe?? Is that a loaded question? We know it in fact ISN'T safe, because the spent fuel being a million times more radioactive than fresh fuel, wasn't safe even when NOT being transported! What a bunch of flim flam artists. NO NUKES. PS- did ya hear the one about YET ANOTHER quake hitting Fukushima today?

comment #1634652 posted on 2015-12-08 09:28:26 by Moderator in response to comment #1633618

Spent fuel moves around the country fairly routinely. The majority is spent fuel from the Naval Propulsion program and spent research and test reactor fuel that is brought back to the U.S. from abroad. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Maureen Conley

comment #1634713 posted on 2015-12-08 14:33:27 by Dan Williamson in response to comment #1634652

Thank you for bringing out that very pertinent fact, Ms. Conley. In the history of the naval nuclear propulsion program, there have been over 3000 shipments of spent cores across our highways - all without incident. That's real-world experience....that's more than just a discussion of the nebulous concept of "safe," to which the participants are allowed to apply their own definitions, depending on their world-view.

comment #1635106 posted on 2015-12-10 09:38:45 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1634652

Yes thanks Dan & Maureen for all the reassurances, I am now getting that warm fuzzy feeling about this stuff. The Navy does it right, civilians do it wrong. Nuclear power should have never been turned over to capitalists! The Navy is handling its waste properly. The civilian nuclear industry and the regulator that is in bed with them are letting this dangerous stuff pile up all over this country. It resides in the backyards of millions of people. And much of it sits, not in safer transportation casks, but in open overloaded spent fuel pools. Yet the NRC washes its hands of this dangerous safety

issue. The NRC is waiting for others to act. Ever hear of the phrase "fiddling while Rome burns"!?! Of course it will just be the public that gets burned, no big deal!

## Tuesday's Nuclear History Quiz

posted on Tue, 08 Dec 2015 15:23:59 +0000



nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:  
nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:An internationally renowned physicist, left, talks to students on the steps of the chemistry building at Bryn Mawr College circa 1959. Some consider her to be among the most significant women scientists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. She was honored with the Enrico Fermi Award by the Atomic Energy Commission (the NRC's predecessor agency) in 1966. In 1992, an element – the heaviest known in the universe – was named for her. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:What is her name? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:What is the name of the element? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:*Photo courtesy of Bryn Mawr College*

### Comments

comment #1634662 posted on 2015-12-08 10:35:31 by Steven Hutchins

Her Name was Lise Meitner. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Element 109, meitnerium, is named in her honour

comment #1634663 posted on 2015-12-08 10:42:39 by John Coupal

Lise Meitner? meitnerium element 109

comment #1634664 posted on 2015-12-08 10:43:33 by

Lise Meitner, Meitnerium

comment #1634668 posted on 2015-12-08 10:54:19 by William Lipton

Lise Meitner, meitnerium ( Z = 109)

comment #1634673 posted on 2015-12-08 11:25:16 by

Yes! You are all correct. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Moderator

comment #1634674 posted on 2015-12-08 11:25:28 by Farshid Shahrokhi

Lise Meitner nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Meitnerium (MT 109)

comment #1634679 posted on 2015-12-08 12:22:19 by CHARLES, Chris

Lise Meitner, Meitnerium.

comment #1634921 posted on 2015-12-09 12:36:09 by CaptD

I wonder what she would say about Fukushima and/or how the Nuclear Industry is being run if she were alive today?

comment #1634944 posted on 2015-12-09 15:26:32 by Some Enthusiast

Lise Meitner's life portrait makes an interesting reading and her rise to fame was not that very simple. In those formative years, atomic research was pretty much a man's world! She had to work in anonymity and could not show her face for two years in the wood shop at Kaiser Wilhelm Institutes, where she worked initially with Otto Hahn. She was the second woman ever to earn a PhD at Vienna and Einstein would call her "The German Madame Curie." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I think, in addition to the Quizzes, the moderator ought to direct the present day physics enthusiasts and the current younger generation to read historians such as Richard Rhodes. There is a treasure trove of information available.

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## Indian Point 3 Timely Renewal

posted on Thu, 10 Dec 2015 16:05:20 +0000

*Diane Scenci nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Sr. Public Affairs Officer nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Region I nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: It's been more than eight years since Entergy filed an application requesting that the NRC renew the operating licenses for Indian Point Units 2 and 3. And, a final decision is still a ways off. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:*



Under NRC regulations, if a company submits a sufficient application for a renewed license at least five years before the expiration of the current license, then the request is considered "timely" and the facility is allowed to continue operating under its current license until the NRC issues a decision on the license renewal request. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: On December 13<sup>th</sup>, [Indian Point 3](#) will enter the period of "timely renewal." Entergy submitted a license renewal application for both Indian Point Units in April 2007, meeting the timeliness provision. The Unit 3 license would have expired December 12, 2015. This doesn't mean the unit will be operating without a license. Rather Unit 3, like Unit 2 (which entered timely renewal in September 2013), will continue to operate under its existing license. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: The Atomic Energy Act specifies that operating licenses can be issued for up to 40 years and allows license renewals in 20 year increments. Thus far, the NRC has issued renewed licenses to 81 reactors. Typically, it takes about 22 months for the staff to reach a decision on whether to renew a license – longer if there's a hearing. In the case of Indian Point, though, the process has taken longer than projected, due in part to the large number of contentions the parties have raised in the hearing. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Although a final decision on the application hasn't been reached, the NRC staff has measures in place to provide assurance the facility will continue to operate safely during this time period. We'll continue to carry out our extensive regulatory and oversight activities. NRC inspectors, including the three on-site Resident Inspectors and specialist inspectors from the

Regional office, will continue their duties during this period, providing independent oversight of the facility on a continual basis. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:In a [September 28](#) letter to the NRC, Entergy confirmed that the Unit 3 license renewal commitments required to be in place prior to entry into the period of extended operation were complete. In October, Entergy certified that the Indian Point 3 Updated Final Safety analysis report had been updated to incorporate aging management programs for the unit. In response, that same month, we completed an [inspection](#) to review the activities Entergy has taken to prepare for operating in timely renewal and found that the processes and commitments had been properly implemented. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:While it might be some time before the Commission reaches a final decision on license renewal at Indian Point, our independent oversight of the facility will continue uninterrupted while in “timely renewal.”

## Comments

comment #1636237 posted on 2015-12-15 10:18:52 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1636086

I guess Dan I must be one of those “usual suspects”. You know the type that seeks “to detract from the NRC’s effort to advance the education of those genuinely seeking reliable information”. I am shocked to learn that I am getting in the way of the advancement of education in any way. I thought at one time Dan you were so upset with folks like me that you threatened to deprive us of your vast nuclear knowledge. I am glad you are back dealing with us ignorant fear-mongering suspects. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:So Dan you want to throttle us suspects not only at public meetings but on this blog as well. We desperately need an outlet for our miserable lives Dan. If you deprive us of this simple pleasure what are we supposed to do with all our extra time? It may be hard for you to be civil in your response to this question so just pass on it if you can. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml>Last time I checked even suspects have a right to their time in court. It does not become you Dan to kill us messengers even though you think our message is hogwash. Please continue to set us straight Dan or we might think that some of our comments hit home. They might, on rare occasions, be getting through all the industry and NRC propaganda. Even a broken clock is right twice a day.

comment #1636723 posted on 2015-12-17 07:44:29 by drbillcorcoran

"Timely Renewal" could erode public trust and confidence in the regulator and the industry. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:It indicates shortfalls in competence, integrity, compliance, and transparency. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:It smacks of gaming the system. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:It was a bad idea. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:What would it have taken to avoid using it? nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:What were the conditions, behaviors, actions, and inactions that made it attractive?

comment #1635219 posted on 2015-12-10 17:57:17 by Anonymous

Low and behold here is another instance, (previously Indian point 2 and now Indian point 3,) how utilities exploit federal bureaucracy to their gleeful advantage. It looks as though renewal rule is written (software developer’s usual practice) to leave a deliberate advantage for stake holders to secure a back stage entry. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Guess what, do anyone believe, any time soon, the contentions the parties have raised in the hearing are ever going to be resolved?

comment #1635291 posted on 2015-12-10 23:52:39 by kelvinsdemon

Considering the urgency of eliminating fossil carbon burning, and the inability of "current solar renewables" to do so, it is high time that the NRC were required to give an environmental assessment of any delays in their licensing procedures. There have been NO meltdowns in the USA since Three Mile Island, and that one was wildly exaggerated. The world's other two such "disasters" were in the Chernobyl case, monumental incompetence, and in Japan, a monumentally larger pair of tectonic events than had occurred before in the history of detailed records. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Meanwhile, the sluggishness of the NRC process has greatly discouraged cleaner and safer nuclear breeder technologies that in fact create a better "renewable resource" than the fashionable use of old fashioned sun, wind, rain and biomass.

comment #1635402 posted on 2015-12-11 09:51:18 by Public Pit Bull

Indian Point (What’s the Point?!) nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Entergy is a company that is bailing out of the nuclear power plant business. They have announced plans to shutter their Fitzpatrick nuke plant in NY and their Pilgrim nuke plant near Boston. Earlier Entergy shuttered their Vermont Yankee nuke plant and the plant is currently in the early stages of decommissioning. So why is Entergy still so intent on renewing the license of their

Indian Point (IP) nuke units in the backyard of New York City?! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Entergy has a poor safety track record with the nukes it owns and operates, including the Indian Point nuke units. Entergy has cited, as reasons for shuttering its nuke plants, the cost of upgrading safety systems and especially the fact that they can no longer compete economically with plentiful and cheap natural gas-fired generation. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Entergy was the first company in the US to purchase a nuclear plant through competitive bidding back in 1999. It was the Pilgrim plant. They then spent millions of ratepayer dollars to extend the life of Pilgrim only to turn around and announce its impending closure shortly thereafter. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Is Entergy going to do the same soon with Indian Point?! We can only hope so for the NRC will no doubt extend this plant's operating license as well, damn the torpedoes (the NRC calls these "contentions" above) and the potential public safety impact on the 17,220,895 (2010 census data) people who live within 50 miles of these nukes. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:IP is "unsafe at any speed" and should be shuttered immediately. We cannot depend on Entergy to put plant and public safety first and Indian Point makes for a very tempting terrorist target.

comment #1635685 posted on 2015-12-12 12:23:11 by CaptD

"Timely" is just another NRC gift to the Nuclear Industry; if the NRC really had BRASS they would also increase (dare I say TRIPLE) the number of on site inspections of all Operators that are operating in a "timely" manner; this would encourage Operators to run their plants in a safer manner, since they are aging and therefore more apt to have problems, that the USA cannot afford to have happen. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC "rule of thumb" should be as plants age the amount of inspections should increase dramatically and these inspections should be both surprised and/or by additional NRC inspectors from out of the Region so that no more San Onofre's happen. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:#SanOnofreGate The hashtag that will allow you to keep up with the ongoing investigation into the multi-billion \$ SCE-CPUC ripoff at San Onofre NPP, which was destroyed by SCE when they installed RSG that had design flaws that caused them to fail\*\* soon after being installed which then led to decommissioning San Onofre to hide Operator and NRC regulatory wrong doing. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\* The FOUR almost-new San Onofre RSG's had more damaged and/or plugged tubes than the rest of the US power plants combined, which is unprecedented in the history of the U.S. Operating Nuclear Fleet. <http://sanonofresafety.files.wordpress.com/2011/11/steamgeneratortubesplugged1.pdf>

comment #1635735 posted on 2015-12-12 17:44:32 by in response to comment #1635291

"breeder technologies" has never worked well to my knowledge. Trans uranics are only reduced maybe. And you still end up with more "fission products" with "high cost" and obvious releases.

comment #1636086 posted on 2015-12-14 11:57:53 by Dan Williamson

When the NRC gets its arms around the whole business of conducting civil, productive public meetings (see <http://atomicinsights.com/agencies-should-not-allow-creation-of-a-hostile-environment-at-public-meetings>), some of those lessons learned should be applied to running this blog. It soon becomes obvious to the casual reader that a short list of the usual suspects come here for no other purpose than to disrupt the conveyance of information from the regulator to the public. Most of what happens here is little more than a written version of the anarchy seen at some public meeting venues. Those blog "contributors" whose M.O.'s regularly include broad-brush, unsubstantiated attacks on the ethics and reputations of both the regulator and the regulated are, at every opportunity, seeking to detract from the NRC's effort to advance the education of the those genuinely seeking reliable information. This well-worn tactic of spreading fear, uncertainty, and doubt by defaming the messenger and anyone with the audacity to disagree with them should be relegated to the trash heap of history. Those who display no ability (or willingness) to engage in civil discourse should, in no uncertain terms, be shown the virtual door.

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## Moderating the Social Media Marketplace of Ideas

posted on Wed, 16 Dec 2015 15:29:33 +0000

Eliot Brenner nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Public Affairs Director nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:



When we launched this blog nearly five years ago, we thought it would be a great vehicle for

informing the public of the NRC's activities. We also expected that the comments feature might be a new channel for dialogue with our readers. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: On the first goal, we believe, the blog is a resounding success. We have posted more than 600 posts on a whole range of subjects, which, we think, have provided additional insight and understanding into the NRC as a whole, as well as into the actions we take and decisions we make. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: With the comment section, we're not so sure. One recent commenter observed: *It soon becomes obvious to the casual reader that a short list of the usual suspects come here for no other purpose than to disrupt the conveyance of information from the regulator to the public.* nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: And it is true that a small number of people submit a substantial number of comments to our blog. It's also true that they tend toward the critical. (Six individuals account for 40 percent of the most recent 1,000 comments.) nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: As we approach the blog's fifth anniversary, we have considered various changes -- including the possibility of closing the comment function (as many federal blogs do). nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: We were reluctant to do this because of the NRC's commitment to openness and transparency. We here in the Office of Public Affairs, which administers this blog, are proud to deal daily and forthrightly with members of the media and public who call, email, or post comments asking questions about the NRC's activities. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: We also decided at this time not to change our comment guidelines. We already ask that submitters refrain from personal attacks -- and while some comments may come close to that line -- the vast majority of comments submitted are approved and posted. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: In the end, we decided it is important for now to keep the platform open to all points of view -- even those critical of us or with which we might disagree. We do continue to ask for civility, though. And we hope that an expanded number of blog readers will see fit to contribute to the comment dialogue. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: We will continue to try to address direct questions posed in comment, and to occasionally point out factual errors in comments. We will continue to refrain, however, from weighing in on every comment discussion. We feel it more appropriate for the blog visitors to be given the opportunity to share their views civilly with us and each other. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: As always, we welcome your comments and suggestions on how to improve the blog.

## Comments

comment #1637141 posted on 2015-12-18 11:12:53 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1636866

Well said Mike. Glad to see you use E-P's blog bullhorn. The pen is mightier than the censorship sword as least as long as we have our freedoms.

comment #1636515 posted on 2015-12-16 13:31:00 by Engineer-Poet

Of "the usual suspects", most of them are working from a common script of memes with stock catch-words and phrases. A great many of these things are outright falsehoods. Those words and catch-phrases should be used as cause for moderators to delete the comments rather than publishing them. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Failing to do this has turned what could have been a medium for expanded information exchange into a playground for anti-nuclear hacks—people whose notion of "success" would ultimately eliminate the NRC, as well as 63% of the carbon-free generation on the US grid. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: As a substitute, the NRC could keep a list or a Wiki of these words and phrases, with well-cited explanations for why they are misleading or outright wrong. It should not be necessary to refute a given bit of nonsense more than once, nor should the NRC leave this essential function to volunteers.

comment #1636545 posted on 2015-12-16 15:36:02 by drgenenelson

At times, the opposition to nuclear power has economic undertones. That should also be an exclusion criterion for blog responses. Please review this 05 January 2010 blog entry by Rod Adams, "Smoking Gun Part 18 – An Oldie But a Goodie – Oil Heat Institute of Long Island (OHILI) Ad Using Scare Tactics to Fight Shoreham" <http://atomicinsights.com/smoking-gun-part-18-an-oldie-but-a-goodie-oil-heat-institute-of-long-island-ad-using-scare-tactics-to-fight-shoreham/> nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: There would be a loss of substantial power generation revenues to OHILI members if Shoreham became operational. Per the 11 October 1981 New York Times article by reporter John T. McQuiston, "Heating Oil supply and Prices 'Stable'" <http://www.nytimes.com/1981/10/11/nyregion/heating-oil-supply-and-prices-stable.html> .... June Bruce, a spokesman for LILCO, said the utility planned to replace 30 percent of the oil with nuclear power when its Shoreham nuclear facility went on line



fully in 1983. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:She said that since electricity to heat homes would be produced primarily in the off-peak hours, most of the energy would be coming from the Shoreham plant.... Please see the New York Times article for additional relevant details.

comment #1636938 posted on 2015-12-17 22:13:43 by Engineer-Poet in response to comment #1636817

This is a moderated forum where comments are published or not, with or without edits, at the whim of the NRC operators. Specifically, this forum is sponsored by the NRC and is at least allegedly devoted to the NRC's goals (whatever they are). I'd like to see a tighter focus on those goals. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:If you want freedom of speech, bullhorns are cheap.

comment #1636582 posted on 2015-12-16 17:15:54 by CaptD

Salute to the NRC PAD for choosing the high road (allowing comments) instead of the low road (filtering comments or much worse N☘ road, (no comments at all). nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:As one of those that does comment often, I'd like to assure those that always cry foul when comments that are not gushingly Pro-Nuclear are posted, that the NRC does have problems, just like other subsets of the US Government and where better for those to be posted than on the NRC Blog? I have enjoyed being able to communicate with employees at the NRC that I would never have had the opportunity to do so and hope they feel the same way, especially about getting comments and/or suggestions that they can then consider. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I for one would like to see the moderation of blog comments sped up since that would allow actual discussions instead of what we have now which is very slow communications, since the current wait times are at least a few hours if not far longer, especially on week ends. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:By being responsive to all those that do post comments, the NRC will become better, since they will have yet another vehicle to gain valuable feedback in a timely manner.

comment #1636587 posted on 2015-12-16 17:41:47 by Genuine Enthusiast

NRC's Blog post is a great tool, makes it a very simple channel to voice public opinion and to post free-lance comments, without having to go through formal routes (such as 2.206, petitioning etc.) Don't even think about closing it down!!! As with everything in life, there will always be some weird back and forth exchanges among shallow witted people. The Blog is not meant for their consumption, it stands for a very noble purpose - to make a lucid, simple statement of facts of what the agency does to a layman like me. And if in the opinion of the agency some are derogatory or is below par, you may have to move it out while mentioning it. Message will get around, don't worry. You are doing an excellent job, take my word! Leave keeping civility to those folks, and if they don't, "shame on them."

comment #1636590 posted on 2015-12-16 18:00:43 by Public Pit Bull

I guess you feel NRC that not all of the "1,753 amazing people" who follow your blog are really all that amazing. Those frequent "usual suspects" must be a real thorn in your side. I am not sure I was one of your top six suspects but I have made a number of comments and the vast majority I admit are critical. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I appreciate the fact that you have posted all my comments with only a rare edit to conform to your post guidelines. You say "many federal agencies" have closed the comment section of their blogs. How tragic & sad is that! I always thought that federal agencies were part of our government and that as such they would always welcome feedback... good, bad or even ugly. How naïve I am! I am glad that at least "for now" the NRC has not done the same. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I am not an expert on what makes for a successful blog site but I did find a couple of suggestions on the net that you may want to consider: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: "My preference is to see a comment section that shows that the community is composed of people who think and are thoughtful." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: "Do you really want a blog that has 29 different versions of 'great post' added to the 33 different ways that others said "thank you for writing this?" nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: "People want to feel like they're part of something and that what they have to say is smart and well-regarded. When they take the time to comment on your blog, they want to know you're reading and considering what they have to say, even if you don't agree." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: "But the real magic happens when people begin commenting to one another and the blog takes on a life of its own." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: "As the blogger, your responsibilities are to pose one side of a debate and open the conversation."

comment #1636614 posted on 2015-12-16 20:08:20 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1636515

Censorship is to art as lynching is to justice. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Henry Louis Gates

comment #1636619 posted on 2015-12-16 20:41:25 by Troy Martel

Looking forward to a Happier New Year!

comment #1638454 posted on 2015-12-24 15:45:17 by Engineer-Poet in response to comment #1637439

*there have been accidents resulting in death from civilian nuclear power.*

Name ONE that came from radiation\*. The US civilian nuclear power plants have had ONE nuclear meltdown with ZERO radiation fatalities, or even injuries. Japan has had the Fukushima flooding with THREE meltdowns, THREE minor injuries and ZERO fatalities.  
nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Civilian nuclear power is the safest energy source on earth. All the over-regulation of the NRC does is keep more dangerous sources in business. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*Death from U.S. nuclear facilities and the nuclear fuel process.<http://www.dol.gov/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/weeklstats.htm>*

Those Dept. of Labor stats have NOTHING to do with the nuclear industry; for one thing, the totals are several times the employment at all US plants put together. Most likely they are largely due to chemical exposures (e.g. benzene and the like from petroleum), lifestyle issues and random things in life. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*Note: Some verbiage removed by the Moderator to adhere to blog comment guidelines.*

Given how innocuous some of the things are which trigger the moderators, I wonder just what witticism I missed. I suspect something to do with unicorns or other unglulates. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\* There was [a 2013 accident in Arkansas with 1 fatality](#), but an alternator stator dropping off a crane has nothing to do with the reactor and would not get more than local news coverage if it happened at any other type of plant. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Moderator Note: Some verbiage removed that was a personal attack on a previous commenter and thus not allowed under the blog comment guidelines.

comment #1637439 posted on 2015-12-19 16:52:55 by Engineer-Poet in response to comment #1636866

*I'd like them to take a swing at explaining why such a limited group talks on this blog.*

Because it's hard to get past the racket of professional activists shrieking out their radiophobia and conspiracy theories. Rebutting the nonsense they write is pointless when moderators delay it for days, and possibly just delete it. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: I seldom visit this blog, because it's two steps outside my usual rounds. Occasionally I have spare time to follow interesting-looking blogroll links. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: I was shocked when my comment in this thread came in first. That has never happened before. Were the pros sleeping off the spiked punch after a big party or something? nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*It seems like some here with the "disruptive persons at the VY NRC meetings", some are using this information to try and get the NRC to reduce public NRC participation across the board.*

And maybe some are trying to get the noxious substances, physical intimidation and hecklers out so that more are heard than just the most lawless anti-nuclear activists. The people and groups who've done that should be subject to restraining orders limiting them to written comment only and barring them from coming within 1000 feet of hearings or conspiring with others to do so. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*the pro nuclear forces are basically withdrawing from making many comments on this NRC blog.*

There is no point in refuting an outright falsehood for the tenth or hundredth time. It contributes nothing; it *builds* nothing, when the USA and the world has a desperate need for an always-on, 100%-emission-free energy infrastructure that is only about 10% built. The treatment for ignorance is education, the treatment for paranoia is psychotropics, and the treatment for a professional fossil-financed activist class is public disclosure requirements. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Those disclosure requirements are badly needed. Why is e.g. Andrew Cuomo trying to save the Fitzgerald nuclear plant running where electric prices are low, but kill the Indian Point plant operating where supplies (especially natural gas) are constrained and prices are high? Killing Indian Point would raise NYC electric rates considerably and create energy crunches under conditions like the recent polar vortex. The average New Yorker gets nothing from this. So who would benefit enough to push the gov'nor to make it happen? At whose expense would this come? nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*they are hoping the NRC changes the comment policy restricting the pro safety forces from overloading the blog with their comments.*

Bah. You have the gall to call yourself "pro-safety" when there are exactly ZERO fatalities from radiation released by commercial nuclear-electric plants in the USA, even in plant workers. You cannot get safer than zero. Meanwhile, people die in ones and twos in car-train accidents from coal, a handful at a time in natural gas explosions, and a steady drizzle of deaths from air pollution amounting to more than the total of traffic accidents and all homicides every year. Most of this would have been stopped decades ago had it not been for "no nukes!" propaganda. Nuclear power was on track to replace coal in electric generation (90% of all coal consumption in the USA); it was anti-nuclear activism which saved the world for Peabody and Northern Pacific. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*Basically the pro nuclear forces are artificially engineering the NRC blog comment policy.*

If anything, the blanket permission given to off-topic and often outright false posts here, even when the assertions are refuted outright by documents elsewhere on the NRC site, is artificial. Bad discussion drives out good, and giving equal time to carefully-researched comments with citations and raving loonies means handing the forum to the latter. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I think that's what you're afraid of. If your opposition is citing details from NRC regulations and findings, and you're citing Helen Caldicott, you don't have any standing to be taken seriously any more. Only if the forum can be dominated by raw emotion and sheer volume do you have a chance. That's mob rule. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*Most of the people in the know realizes most of the nuclear employees are under legal restrictions and non-disclosures agreements. They will lose a lot of money and their careers if they get caught saying something that were under restrictions.*

Which doesn't do a thing to stop anonymous whistleblowers, and can you REALLY say that there aren't dozens of outlets that would fall all over themselves to be first to publish such bombshells? Please; what you say defies human nature. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*Remember the only currency the NRC has is their credibility. Once a regulator loses their credibility a plant shutdown is sure to follow.*

Currency? The NRC has legal authority granted by Congress. Public credibility has nothing to do with it.

comment #1637850 posted on 2015-12-21 09:56:40 by Moderator in response to comment #1636938

Very few comments are not published as most, perhaps with some words removed, adhere to the blog comment guidelines. Further, comments are reviewed and posted several times a day. On occasion, a comment might be delayed in posting if the comment is being reviewed for an allegation. Comments are not reviewed during non-working hours. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Moderator

comment #1636798 posted on 2015-12-17 13:12:56 by Engineer-Poet in response to comment #1636614

*Censorship is to art as lynching is to justice.*

What "art" would that be, trolling? This forum should be about facts, meaning truth. Some advances may be artful, but art itself has no place here. Neither does the hysterical emoting which passes for discussion with some people. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

*Henry Louis Gates*

Ah, the [individual] who made a federal case out of being asked for his ID when a neighbor reported him forcing his way into a dwelling. An anti-icon, so to speak. How appropriate. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: Comment edited by moderator to meet NRC blog comment guidelines.

comment #1636817 posted on 2015-12-17 14:14:36 by Half-TruthSlayer in response to comment #1636515

EP, what part of "free speech" do you not understand?!

comment #1636866 posted on 2015-12-17 17:55:13 by Mike Mulligan

Well, you know me. I am always trying to figure why things are the way they are. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: NRC: "And it is true that a small number of people submit a substantial number of comments to our blog. It's also true that they tend toward the critical. (Six individuals account for 40 percent of the most recent 1,000 comments.)" nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: There goes the NRC again with them just giving us the selective facts again. These facts are indisputable. I'd like them to take a swing at explaining why such a limited group talks on this blog. . They do this all the time with disclosing the basic facts in the Inspection reports, never showing us the context why a problem in the industry shows up over and over again. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: If Trump went by the nuclear industry's game plan, he'd just stand at the podium and never say a word. He's say as little as he could get away with. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: It seems like some here with the "disruptive persons at the VY NRC meetings", some are using this information to try and get the NRC to reduce public NRC participation across the board. Again, no context why a significant amount and an increasing amount of Vermonters were losing faith in the NRC and institutions in general. And the NY governor is showing tremendous mistrust and losing credibility of the NRC today. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: You get it, so the pro nuclear forces are basically withdrawing from making many comments on this NRC blog. They complain to the NRC that the comments are so one-sided. Then they are hoping the NRC

changes the comment policy restricting the pro safety forces from overloading the blog with their comments. Basically the pro nuclear forces are artificially engineering the NRC blog comment policy. It's basically the arsonist blaming the firefighter for starting a fire.  
nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Most of the people in the know realizes most of the nuclear employees are under legal restrictions and non-disclosures agreements. They will lose a lot of money and their careers if they get caught saying something that were under restrictions. Plus the general culture in the nuclear industry is so caustic, if an employee is caught saying something contrary to the herd, he would be severely ostracized. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Remember the only currency the NRC has is their credibility. Once a regulator loses their credibility a plant shutdown is sure to follow. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Thanks, nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Mike Mulligan nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Hinsdale NH

comment #1637867 posted on 2015-12-21 11:43:31 by Garry Morgan

Your Blog is greatly appreciated; it allows for communications across a broad spectrum of individuals. Whether we may agree or disagree, we are all part of the "nuclear family." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season.

comment #1637868 posted on 2015-12-21 11:49:12 by Garry Morgan in response to comment #1636817

There is no "free speech," however there is responsible speech, which has been paid for by the blood, suffering and efforts of the few in our military and public servants for the many.

comment #1637871 posted on 2015-12-21 12:10:32 by Garry Morgan in response to comment #1637439

Not true, there have been accidents resulting in death from civilian nuclear power. The emissions from nuclear power may be as deadly as the noxious emissions from coal, fossil fuels or \_\_\_\_\_). Nuclear power waste and the fuel process from nuclear power does not equal an emissions free power generation source. Death from U.S. nuclear facilities and the nuclear fuel process. <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/energy/regs/compliance/weeklystats.htm> The DOL stats do not include all the sickness and death stats as much was classified prior to 2001, and the figures do not include ALL current claims as they are not disclosed due to protections as a result of the 1996 HIPAA Law which protects specific disclosures. Current exposures are disclosed in NRC event report documents but the final disposition is not disclosed nor reported nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml>Note: Some verbiage removed by the Moderator to adhere to blog comment guidelines.

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## Mothballed Nuclear Plant Provides Fresh Training Perspective

posted on Thu, 17 Dec 2015 16:02:04 +0000

Joey Ledford nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Public Affairs Officer nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Region II nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Few are aware that Nuclear Regulatory Commission instructors regularly teach basic reactor concepts while conducting tours at a mothballed nuclear plant site in Hollywood. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:[caption id="attachment\_6798"



align="alignright" width="300"] The Bellefonte site[/caption] nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:That's Hollywood, Ala., by the way, and there's no show biz connection. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-

14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:  
 nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Instructors at the NRC's Technical Training Center in Chattanooga, Tenn., realized a few years ago that the two-unit, never-completed Bellefonte Nuclear Plant in Hollywood, just 65 miles away, would be a perfect classroom. Even though many of the major components were either taken out or cut apart and then sold by the plant's owners, the Tennessee Valley Authority, enough of the framework remains to allow students to get an extremely realistic idea of what a plant is like and how it works. TVA and the NRC signed a memorandum of understanding to allow the training to take place. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Since Bellefonte never had a fuel load, even containment and the empty spent fuel pools are open for official visitors. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:“You can even eat inside containment,” Doug Simpkins, a TTC instructor, quipped to a unique class last week. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Instructors Simpkins and Mark Speck, both former resident inspectors in Region II, regularly teach a five-day course at Bellefonte, called Practical Applications of Reactor Technology as well as a separate Site Tour of Bellefonte course. They expanded the curriculum last month when John Pelchat, Region II's government liaison officer, approached them with the idea of a customized course for personnel from the Alabama Emergency Management Agency. That agency's newly appointed head, Art Faulkner, wanted his people to learn how a nuclear plant works but preferred a shorter class. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Since Alabama has five operating commercial units, three at Browns Ferry near Huntsville and two at Farley near Dothan, preparation for a possible event is essential. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:[caption id="attachment\_6800" align="alignleft" width="407"]



Representatives from the Alabama Emergency Management Agency listen to an

NRC instructor at Bellefonte. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:“Now they are going to have a mental picture,” said Faulkner during the two-day course that saw him and 19 of his lieutenants trooping through the sprawling plant with Simpkins and Speck. “During an event or an exercise, they are going to have a better idea of what's going on at a plant.” nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Brett Howard, the AEMA's director of field operations, offered a graphic example of the value of the NRC training. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:“We had an alert declared at Plant Farley due to a [malfunctioning] muffler coming off a diesel generator,” he said. “You think of a generator as being pretty small. Now we can see from these generators here that a muffler is as big as a sewer pipe. No wonder it took all day. It puts it in perspective.” nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Faulkner was very pleased with the experience and urged his colleagues from other states to consider booking time with the NRC instructors, who also provide a look at how NRC inspectors do their jobs. nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:“Bar none, this is the most informative and best training we've done,” he said. “I believe it will enable us to better operate in the unlikely event we have an incident.”

**Comments**

comment #1639394 posted on 2015-12-30 02:54:22 by Nick

This looks like an excellent training site for one to be in to. I wonder why bellefonte was never completed?

comment #1636776 posted on 2015-12-17 12:03:39 by John Coupal

Sounds like an excellent training site for reactor operators and regulatory personnel from throughout the US. What is the reason that Bellefonte was "never-completed" and "mothballed"?

comment #1636828 posted on 2015-12-17 14:56:55 by Public Pit Bull

Glad you quickly posted another blog NRC. The sooner the last one is put in the dead letter file the better. Glad to hear you are getting some good out of mothballed nuclear plants. I am grateful that there will be more of them in the future.

comment #1636810 posted on 2015-12-17 13:43:26 by NRC in response to comment #1636776

TVA made a business decision not to complete the two units. Published reports indicated the decision was based on economics and power demand. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Joey Ledford, NRC Region II

comment #1636831 posted on 2015-12-17 15:08:32 by CaptD

Too bad the NRC and the ASLB do not make use of San Onofre NPP in California to determine the the Root Cause of the thousands of damaged tubes in both San Onofre Units 3 and Unit 2 RSG's which was termed by NRC as a "very serious" safety issue. As a result of the operators (SCE) design and operational errors, the almost-new San Onofre RSG's had more damaged and/or plugged tubes than the rest of the US power plants combined, which is unprecedented in the history of the U.S. Operating Nuclear Fleet.\* Although the NRC officially still does not consider multiple SG tube leaks possible (a serious safety implications for the rest of the U. S. Fleet) San Onofre proved that more than one SG tube can fail at a time. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://sanonofresafety.files.wordpress.com/2011/11/steamgeneratortubesplugged1.pdf nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:\*Credit: SanOnofreSafety.org

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## Happy Holidays

posted on Thu, 24 Dec 2015 08:00:33 +0000

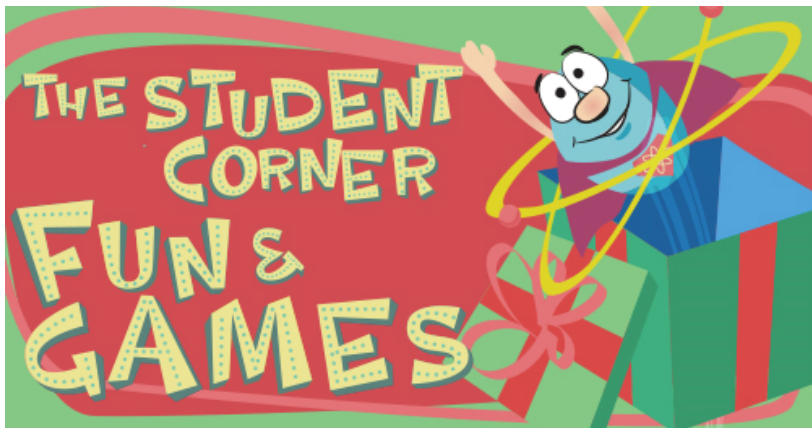


## Comments

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## Just In Time For the Holidays

posted on Wed, 23 Dec 2015 15:11:10 +0000



## Comments

### Extending the Deadline on Decommissioning Comments

posted on Thu, 24 Dec 2015 14:24:35 +0000

Dave McIntyre nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Public Affairs Officer nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC is extending the public comment period on our decommissioning rulemaking from the original date of January 4 to March 18 to allow more time for members of the public to develop and submit their comments on this important issue. The extension more than doubles the comment period from 45 to 120 days. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:We published an “advance notice of proposed rulemaking,” or ANPR in regulatory lingo, in the [Federal Register](#) on November 19. This was the first step toward developing a regulatory basis for a new rule on decommissioning commercial nuclear power plants. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The new rule would establish clear requirements for decommissioning reactors in emergency preparedness, physical security and fitness-for-duty, among other areas, thereby reducing the need for exemptions from current requirements designed for operating reactors. It would also address the timeliness of decommissioning and the role of state and local governments and other organizations. The result would be a more efficient, open and reliable decommissioning process. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Five reactors have permanently shut down since the beginning of 2013, and three more are expected to cease operations by 2019. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Comments may be submitted over the federal government’s rulemaking website, [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), using Docket ID NRC-2015-0070.

## Comments

comment #1638473 posted on 2015-12-24 18:12:01 by CaptD

Extending NRC deadlines make great sense, since the more comments the NRC receives, the better job they hopefully can do to address those comments when they make their rule changes! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Having equal access to the NRC should be a cornerstone of the NRC rule making procedures, since otherwise the nuclear Industry will control the very rule update system that affect them, something that will only lead to problems in the future, as the nuclear industry seeks ever less control and oversight over its operation of NPPs.

comment #1638424 posted on 2015-12-24 12:12:31 by Half-TruthSlayer

About Time NRC nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:19 power reactors in the US are already being decommissioned NRC. Don’t you think many cows have already gone out the barn door for you now to be thinking about a rulemaking?! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:As you say NRC this new rule “would also address the timeliness of decommissioning and the role of state and local governments and other organizations. The result would be a more efficient, open and reliable decommissioning process.” nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-

04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Yes NRC you wouldn't want to leave any more local governments and other organizations out of the process. And you say it will be "more efficient and reliable", perhaps even safer NRC?! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Even saying the process will be "more efficient" implies that the ratepayers of these nuke utilities already into this process have been paying extra for all your foot-dragging. But what can we expect? You are just part of our dysfunctional government. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Trouble is this is just part of your awful track record of being behind the eight-ball on most any issue you attempt to deal with. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:For example, all these, now aging, nuclear power plants were issued operating licenses by the NRC despite the fact that there was no established safe, remote, & permanent storage location for all the high level radioactive waste (HLW) produced by them. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Currently there are over 90 locations in the US that house this HLW in open & overloaded spent fuel pools. Had the Japanese been as neglect in this regard as we have been here in the US, the 2011 nuclear disaster in Japan would have been even worse. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Japan also has made safety upgrades to its nuclear fleet that the US nuke industry has talked our NRC out of making at identical nuke plants here in the US. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:So bottom line, the NRC is not only slow but it is grossly negligent. It is not public safety first at the NRC, it is nuclear industry viability first!

comment #1638446 posted on 2015-12-24 15:02:58 by David Andersen

Accommodating the anti-nukes again, giving them more time to come up with frivolous nonsense on an issue that is already well understood.

comment #1639427 posted on 2015-12-30 07:21:16 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1639115

Nice Try DW nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The nuclear industry fights safety upgrades to the US nuclear fleet all the time. The latest of course are needed upgrades to prevent a Fukushima-type disaster in the US. The only US nuclear industry actions in response to Fukushima have been to improve the ability to cope with or mitigate a similar accident here when it occurs, not to prevent such a disaster in the first place. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Furthermore, the Japanese installed a so-called filtered vent to significantly reduce the amount of radioactivity released to the public during an accident. Our nuclear industry successfully lobbied our lax nuclear regulator to not require a similar filtered vent on identical nuke plants in the US. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Fortunately the Japanese provided for safe off-site storage of high level nuclear spent fuel so their spent fuel pools were not overloaded like those spent fuel pools in the US. The Japanese disaster would have been even worse had their spent fuel pools contained as much fuel as allowed in ours. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Nice try DW, but you are the one ignoring the facts.

comment #1639429 posted on 2015-12-30 07:34:47 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1639115

DW, thought I would pass along another example of gross negligence & foot dragging nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:by the nuke industry and our "put the nuclear industry first" NRC... nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:http://allthingsnuclear.org/dlochbaum/fire-when-not-ready-2

comment #1639115 posted on 2015-12-28 11:37:29 by Dan Williamson in response to comment #1638424

"Japan also has made safety upgrades to its nuclear fleet that the US nuke industry has talked our NRC out of making at identical nuke plants here in the US." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:You have no idea what you're talking about. Every operating plant in this country is now wrapping up the implementation of upgrades in the form of modified permanent plant equipment, portable emergency response hardware, and expanded operating procedures to deal with "beyond design basis external events." Following Fukushima, NRC issued Orders to the licensees, and the licensees submitted plans for complying with those Orders for NRC approval. These upgrades have cost each utility (and therefore, ratepayers) hundreds of millions of dollars. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Get some "whole truths" before you start talking.

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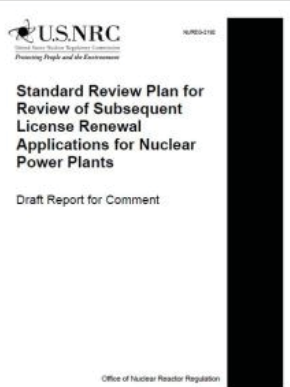
## Guiding Our Reviews of Subsequent License Renewal

posted on Tue, 29 Dec 2015 15:46:58 +0000

Albert Wong nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Division of License Renewal nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The NRC has recently published two draft documents intended to guide the staff's review of



“subsequent license renewal” applications – renewals that would allow commercial nuclear power plants to operate beyond 60 years. We’ll use public comments we receive on these to develop final guidance as we prepare to receive the first “SLR” application sometime in 2019. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-



01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: As we discussed in an [earlier blog post](#), the NRC licenses plants to operate for 40 years, and the licenses can be renewed for up to 20 years at a time. To date, the agency has renewed the licenses of 81 reactors (two of which have since permanently shut down). nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:As industry looks to operate some plants beyond 60 years, we’re getting ready to assess the particular challenges to keeping the plants safe. That’s where these draft guidance documents come in. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The documents address material aging and degradation a plant’s structures, systems and components may experience when operating more than 60 years. They also detail aging management programs acceptable to the NRC for licensees to use during the subsequent license renewal period. They incorporate lessons learned and knowledge gained by the staff from recent plant operating experience and previous license renewal reviews. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Long-term operation research sponsored by the NRC, the Electric Power Research Institute, the Department of Energy’s national laboratories and international organizations also informs the guidance. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Public comments on the draft guidance documents will be accepted through February 29. The staff will hold public meetings at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Md., on January 21, January 22 and February 23 to present the reports and receive comments. The final documents should be published by mid-2017. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:The draft reports, are available on the [NRC’s License Renewal Guidance webpage](#). nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

## Comments

comment #1639623 posted on 2015-12-31 09:49:04 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1639463

Thanks for weighing in again NRC even though you won't always do so. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:My apologies to David, I thought he had a real job with the NRC.

comment #1639636 posted on 2015-12-31 11:48:05 by Dan Williamson

The post by Mr. Brenner left me with the impression that there is an unexplained reluctance on the part of NRC subject matter experts to actively participate here. I hope you're not being pressured by anyone - elected or otherwise - to avoid even the appearance of being critical of those who so frequently denigrate your reputation. I encourage greater interaction here by NRC. Anything you can do to help raise the signal-to-noise ratio on this site would be greatly appreciated.

comment #1639615 posted on 2015-12-31 08:55:53 by Public Pit Bull in response to comment #1639463

Dialogue Appreciated nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I have at last found a point that I can agree with from the few who choose to bother with supporting what the pro-nuclear power NRC has to say. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Most of the time these few repeat nuclear power advocates say they do not even bother to set us evil anti-nuke folks straight because our comments do not rise to a level, in their opinion, that even deserve a response. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:But indeed I noted that the NRC Moderator (David) did respond to provide feedback to this particular blog response. I noted a good push back comment in what David had to say. David, in a nice way, noted that “a keen observer will note significant differences”. Yes I would agree that not all of us commenters are “keen” observers. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-

04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I also believe David was not in the NRC PR department because the post was responsive, informative, and to the point. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Another David also noted the following... nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:"Thanks David, it's good to see a response from a moderator. Wish it would happen more frequently." nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I could not agree more! nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I think, NRC, if you do respond to comments I think it will make for a much more interesting and appealing blog site. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I know the downside is that it will encourage us "anti-nukes" to make even more "keen less" comments but doesn't that go with the turf on a good blog site?!

comment #1639618 posted on 2015-12-31 09:26:33 by Moderator in response to comment #1639615

David McIntyre is a public affairs officer with the NRC. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:A recent blog post by Public Affairs Director Eliot Brenner specifically addressed the NRC's stance in regards to responding to blog comments. This is what he wrote: We will continue to try to address direct questions posed in comment, and to occasionally point out factual errors in comments. We will continue to refrain, however, from weighing in on every comment discussion. We feel it more appropriate for the blog visitors to be given the opportunity to share their views civilly with us and each other. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Moderator

comment #1639480 posted on 2015-12-30 12:54:09 by David Andersen in response to comment #1639463

Thanks David, it's good to see a response from a moderator. Wish it would happen more frequently.

comment #1639492 posted on 2015-12-30 14:06:45 by Anonymous in response to comment #1639463

David – I am satisfied; but I would not quite broad brush it with years of operational experience to show the program is effectiveness; for, charpy V-notch measures the ductile-to-brittle transition of material and is there to condition monitor with an objective to prevent catastrophic failure. Remember, Titanic sinking and to connect the iceberg to notch toughness, took years of research – we don't know what imponderables are involved with radiation fluence. At best, we have to be modest to say it is progressive. We are pioneers in this venture with the aging fleet. I will stop here. - Anonymous

comment #1639448 posted on 2015-12-30 09:52:48 by Dan Williamson in response to comment #1639345

@Anon nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:So, let's say the utility complies with regulations and files a license extension request the minimum required 5 years prior to expiration. And then the review process is prolonged by circumstances beyond the utility's control - let's say, for example, by an endless stream of unsubstantiated contentions filed by professional interveners whose sole purpose is run up the cost to the utility in the form of staff review hours, or in the case of IPEC 3, the deferral of approval pending completion of the revised Waste Confidence Rule. What is the plant supposed to do at the hour of expiration (he asked rhetorically)? Just go to cold shutdown and defuel the reactor while the artificially protracted review cycle runs its course? Don't bother replying - we already know your answer.

comment #1639463 posted on 2015-12-30 11:30:39 by Moderator in response to comment #1639345

On the contrary. While there are indeed several similarities between the GALL-SLR and the original GALL and its 2010 revision, a keen observer will note significant differences. The similarities are there for a simple reason: Those programs work. We have several years of operational experience to show the Reactor Vessel Surveillance Aging Management Program is effective. Including it in the new guidance makes sense. Other aging management programs were changed significantly. For example, the Pressurized Water Reactor Vessel Internals Aging Management Program was eliminated in favor of plant-specific programs. For Boiling Water Reactor Vessel Internals, related components will now require further evaluation of irradiation-induced effects. We will hold public meetings in February to outline the new guidance and changes from the previous GALL and Standard Review Plan. Additional changes to the guidance may be included based on the comments we receive. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:As for timely renewal, this is a requirement established by Congress in the Administrative Procedures Act, Section 558: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:When the licensee has made timely and sufficient application for a renewal or a new license in accordance with agency rules, a license with reference to an activity of a continuing nature does not expire until the application has been finally determined by the agency. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:And don't forget: The NRC has authority to address safety issues at any time, regardless of the status of a license renewal application. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:David McIntyre

comment #1639321 posted on 2015-12-29 15:56:23 by CaptD

As the wicked Witch said in the (original) Wizard of Oz, "These things must be done delicately"... nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:

nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:I'm happy to see that the NRC is providing until the end of February 2016 for public comments on what may very well be, one of the most important decisions the NRC will be making. Hopefully by then, many comments from the public will have posted comments that help the NRC determine how to best fulfill its role as the Regulator of a Nuclear Industry that feels it not only knows best but needs far less regulation.

comment #1639345 posted on 2015-12-29 20:02:39 by Anonymous

This new guidance (NUREG-1800 and 1801, reissued under new NUREG number) are exactly identical to the one issued in 2005 and taken credit for reissuance in 2010! Pragmatically, a keen observer cannot see any sensible difference or anything new in the SLR guidance now issued for comments. For example, see a vital Aging Managing Program guidance on Reactor Vessel Material Surveillance. Except for one cosmetic and editorial change, such as change to "40-year license term" there is nothing new! This is one vital program that monitors neutron embrittlement properly accounted for, where structural properties are being altered (notch toughness) when subjected to peak neutron fluence at the end of the design life (40 years) which is already past. We are moving from 40 to 60 years to 80 years in 20 year increment and you are so callous that you cut-and-paste a previous program "as is." It is appalling. nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml: nrcpublicblog.wordpress.com-2016-01-04-14\_00\_57\usnrcblog.wordpress.2016-01-04.post\_type-post.start\_date-2015-11-01.end\_date-2015-12-31.status-publish.001.xml:Do one thing in the least - shut the "Timely Renewal Clause routine" out of the new rule when writing SLR guidance, and not enable slick operators like Entergy secure a backdoor entry and continue to operate units (case in point Indian Point 2 and 3) without an official renewal being accorded.

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posted on Thu, 31 Dec 2015 16:59:07 +0000



**Comments**

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