

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 7, 2017

The Honorable Kristine L. Svinicki
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Re: Docket Nos. 50-271 & 72-59

Dear Chairman Svinicki:

We write to request that you conduct a public meeting in Vermont regarding the proposed license transfer and forthcoming revised Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) for the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station.

As you know, NorthStar Group Holdings has filed an application with the NRC to acquire the license of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station from Entergy. Our understanding is that, due to the accelerated decommissioning timeline that would result from the sale, a revised PSDAR is expected to be filed by NorthStar in the near future.

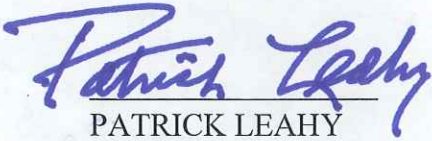
This proposed license transfer and accelerated decommissioning timeline represent a significant change from Entergy's original decommissioning plans, including related costs and financial guarantees. Rather than maintaining Vermont Yankee in SAFSTOR for the next 60 years, NorthStar is proposing to decommission the plant and remediate the site by 2030.

The magnitude of this change makes it imperative that state and local stakeholders have meaningful opportunities to provide the NRC with input regarding the license transfer and decommissioning proposal. While the proposed license transfer has the potential to bring significant benefits to the local community, it is nevertheless a complex transaction deserving of thorough scrutiny.

We understand that per 10 CFR 2.1305, the NRC will hold a public comment period regarding the proposed license transfer. Our request is that the NRC conduct a public meeting in Vermont during this public comment period. Such a meeting will provide local stakeholders with an opportunity to ask questions, provide their perspective on issues such as site restoration standards, and ensure clarity with regard to the meaning and scope of this proposed transfer. In addition, the associated public comment period should be long enough to give a broad range of stakeholders sufficient time to formulate substantive comments to the NRC.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY

U.S. Senator



BERNARD SANDERS

U.S. Senator



PETER WELCH

Member of Congress

McCloskey, Bridin

Attachments: 2017.03.07 - Letter - NRC - VT NorthStar Public Meeting Request.pdf

From: Fowler, Mark [<mailto:Mark.Fowler@mail.house.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Weil, Jenny <Jenny.Weil@nrc.gov>
Cc: Wojciechowski, Adrienne (Judiciary-Dem) <Adrienne_Wojciechowski@Judiciary-dem.senate.gov>; 'Thomas, Katie (Sanders)' <Katie_Thomas@sanders.senate.gov>
Subject: [External_Sender] Vermont Meeting Request Letter

Hi Jenny –

Per our previous conversation, here is the final pdf of the Vermont delegation letter requesting a public meeting on the Vermont Yankee license transfer and revised PSDAR in Vermont. Let us know if we can answer any questions in the meantime and thanks for the consideration.

Best,
Mark

Mark Fowler
Office of Rep. Peter Welch (VT-AL)
2303 Rayburn HOB
202.225.4115
Mark.Fowler@mail.house.gov