

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MARGARET ERBE ADDRESSING THE ZIMMER AREA CITIZENS-ZIMMER AREA CITIZENS OF KENTUCKY CONTENTIONS 20, 20b, 21. 21b, 21c, 21d, 21e, and 23

State of Ohio SS: County of Clermont)

THE CINCINNATI GAS & ELECTRIC

(Wm. H. Zimmer Nuclear Power

COMPANY, et al.

In the Matter of

Station)

Margaret Erbe, duly cautioned and sworn, states as my testimony the following. I, Margaret, Erbe, reside at 3146 S.R. 222, Bethel, Ohio. I have resided in the Zimmer area since 1959 and I lived across from the Zimmer plant itself for eight years. I have a bachelor of arts degree in music. I have taught music and nursery school in 1963 and 64 at Indian Hill Elementary and High Schools and Lotspeich School. I have been a private music teacher for 20 years. I have organized children's choirs for ten years and have also taught third through sixth grade music at Indian Hills Schools in 1972 and 1973. In 1971 and 1972, I organized the Moscow Life Squad and I was the treasurer of the Moscow Life Squad in 1973 and 1974 and I was vice president of Moscow P.T.O in 1973 and 1974. I

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was president of the Moscow P.T.O. from 1974 to 1976 and organizer and director of the New Richmond Schools Reading Is Fundamental Program from 1975 to 1980. I have been involved in additional volunteer work and community school activities for the last 13 years in the New Richmond Schools. I also attended and graduated from Bethel-Tate High School and have had many dealings with Bethel and Felicity schools in reading programs and volunteer work also.

I am a parent of school age and pre-school aged children. I have a son in New Richmond High School and two daughters and two sons in Monroe Elementary School. I also have 4 pre-school children aged two weeks to five years old. I have a son who graduated from New Richmond Schools last year.

For the past three years I have attempted to get the officials of New Richmond, Bethel-Tate and Felicity Schools to develop in writing and implement school evacuation plans in the event of a Zimmer emergency. I have attended several sessions with the school superintendents and have attended several Board of Education meetings at New Richmond Schools. I have worked on a committee with Margaret Miller, who is a member of the New Richmond Board of Education, and with Kenneth Conover, who is director of the Clermont County Disaster Services Bureau, in an effort to help develop school evacuation plans. Despite these efforts I am presently unaware of the existence of any written school evacuation plans for any of the above school districts. I have only heard preliminary ideas occasionally thrown out orally and have seen notes written with respect to New Richmond Schools, but the specific evacuation plan has not been reduced to writing. As a parent in the New Richmond School district, I have never been advised of either the need for such evacuation plans or the fact that they would be written in the future. On several occasions I have discussed in person these same concerns I have about Zimmer with officials of the State of

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Ohio and the Clermont County Commissioners. I have generally found these state and county officials generally apathetic and aften ignorant about these concerns which relate to the safety of the public in general and the school children in particular. I have also met with officials of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the Kentucky counties near Zimmer who are involved with Zimmer emergency planning.

Each of the current school superintendents have advised me that after Stone & Webster completes its plans, the schools will begin to write out their individual school plans. I am unaware of any coordination or cooperative planning by the three school systems. I have been advised by Bethel-Tate and Felicity School officials that they will not interfere with parents who wish to pick up their children in case an evacuation is necessary. However, the superintendent of New Richmond Schools has told me that he will deny access to parents attempting to get their children in the event an evacuation from New Richmond Schools is necessary.

The failure of school officials to keep area parents advised of the existence of any comprehensive evacuation planning in the event of a Zimmer emergency, has caused widespread concern and anxiety. Many parents, including myself, have no confidence that our school aged children will be safe in the event an evacuation of the schools is deemed necessary.

I am deeply concerned by the failure of the school and other public officials to address many of the concerns that I and other parents have. I am aware that there are an insufficient number of buses owned by the New Richmond and Bethel-Tate Schools to evacuate all the school children at one time. Furthermore, I am concerned that there may be no way to contact school bus drivers who often keep the school buses at their homes during the school day in the event an evacuation is necessary. Other parents and myself have often experienced the difficulties with telephone communication in the area which would limit the school's ability to notify bus drivers and other key persons or receive information if evacuation is warranted. Due to the limited number of telephone service lines going into the schools, I have often been unable to reach the schools by telephone during times of snow and flood emergency and even often during normal school days. Because parents in this area have no assurance that their concerns for their childrens' safety are being adequately considered, our family intends to evacuate our children from the schools personally in the event problems arise at Zimmer. Based upon my conversations I believe that many families will attempt to get their children from the local schools despite instructions to the contrary if problems arise at Zimmer.

Our family's enxiety has increased over the past several years as we continually have heard in the news of problems connected with the construction of Zimmer. The most recent action of NRC's imposition of a fine against the utilities which will operate Zimmer has concerned a great number of area families about the risks they and their children may face from Zimmer.

Having lived in this area all my life I have found large segments of the local population very independent minded and often skeptical of local authorities. This is true even during times of flooding when local residents disregard warnings to evacuate. In the event a Zimmer accident were to necessitate evacuation of the public in these areas, I am very fearful that a general panic and disorder would occur, since many persons would have little confidence that local officials would be responsive. This is particularly apparent with Zimmer

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emergency planning when the general public has received no indication that. local officials are responding to their concerns. Furthermore, I do not think we have a sufficient number of police to cope with the problems that might occur in an evacuation situation. Nor do I think that a sufficient number of volunteers would respond in such an emergency.

I am very concerned that the State of Ohio has chosen not to make potassium iodide available to the public, particularly the school children, in preparation of a nuclear emergency. The state officials are seemingly totally apathetic to our safety concerns since these officials, for no apparent reason, have chosen not to make potassium iodide available to the public while the population in Kentucky will have this protection available.

Margaret Exbe

Subscribed by in my presence and sworn to me this hay of January,

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