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November 16, 1980

Joseph M. Henry, Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Henry,

As you know, the Public Service Company of New Hampshire is building a nuclear power plant in Seabrook, New Hampshire, which happens to be about 50 miles from my home. I have been reading about nuclear power and I am very concerned about several areas of it.

First, if nuclear power is so "safe", how come I can't get my house insured against a nuclear accident? My insurance agent told me that there is a mandatory exclusion provision on nuclear accidents in every insurance policy issued in America because the effects of a nuclear accident would be so devastating that there wouldn't be enough resources to cover the damages. I have been told about the Price-Anderson Law that is paid for by the federal government and the utilities, which provides coverage for up to \$560 million - a figure that was determined years ago. If a nuclear accident did happen at Seabrook, how much is the real estate, businesses, and medical expenses expected to be? What would the clean-up costs be? Who would pay for the expenses exceeding \$560 million?

Second, have there been any provisions for the decommissioning costs of Seabrook? I read where one nuclear reactor's decommissioning actually cost as much as the original building costs. The New Hampshire State Legislature passed a Law outlawing Construction-Work-In-Progress Charges, so I wouldn't doubt that a similar law outlawing Decommissioning-Work-In-Progress Charges would be passed, because no one would be directly benefiting from the costs.

Third, there is genuine concern about evacuation plans, which have been shown to be impossible to implement. I know that the NRC has not made evacuation plans a mandatory requirement prior to being able to be licensed for operation; however, I believe that they should be placed at the top of your priority list to be a requirement for all nuclear plants and that in the case of Seabrook, you should be seriously considering stopping the construction of the plant because any emergency evacuation plans have to take transients into account. These transients are families with children, busloads of children on field trips, and many teenagers who hitchhiked to the beaches; obviously, these people will be difficult to evacuate under the best of circumstances. Where would the guidance come from? The people in Civil Defense are mostly volunteers (usually one person) and they could be at work, on vacation, or sick at the time of an accident. The police force will have its' hands full by just directing traffic and keeping order. Also, the Civil Defense people have not been educated as to what they should be expecting in the way of casualties, such as: type and severity of injuries, availability of medical personnel trained in radiation casualties, and the amount of injured and dead.

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Rina Petit
Letter to NRC
November 16, 1980
Page Two

395

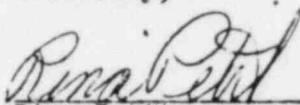
Fourth, where can I find a map of the power lines that will be erected to transmit the electricity that has been generated? What size and voltage will they be? If the route of the lines has not been finalized, what are the proposed routes?

Fifth, the newspapers have told of numerous occasions where the selectmen of the towns surrounding the Seabrook Plant and the selectmen of the Town of Seabrook have voiced disapproval of the construction of a nuclear power plant. Also, 32 state representatives sent a letter insisting that the Seabrook Plant not be finished, this letter was sent to the NRC in November, 1979. There have been many demonstrations against the plant. With all this negative reaction from the local government, the state government, and everyday people, why is Seabrook still being built? Doesn't home rule count?

Sixth, where will the nuclear waste generated at Seabrook be permanently placed?

I would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Rina Petit