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(57 FR 28645)

Sept 9, 1992

DOCKETED
USNRC

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To the Secretary of the Commission,

'92 SEP 14 P3:11

I ask that the dry cask storage for high-level nuclear waste project be immediately stopped. (The plan for dry cask storage near PARISADES.)

To put nuclear waste (high-level, yet!) 150 yards from the shore of Lake Michigan, (the eroding Western Shore) is ludicrous.

Quite apart from that, there has been no environmental impact statement, and no public hearings. Democracy has ^{had} no place in this process, which is an outrage to the generations to come after us. We represent the generations to come, who will not comprehend our reasons, if we pollute the Great Lakes forever with deadly wastes.

These casks are untested in the field. They have not been through a harsh Michigan winter, nor subjected to the steady acid rain that Michigan has.

KAY HAFFNER

PARISADES WATCH

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At least, open up this process to the public! Allow public hearings, not only in the state of Michigan, but with the states that connect to the Great Lakes, and Canada. For if deadly wastes spill into Lake Michigan, they will not stay isolated.

Questions on temperatures in the casks, and degradation of fuel over time in the casks, questions on what will be done with fuel that is taken leaking, or falling apart from the spent fuel pool, etc, have yet to be answered. The seal put on a cask is put on there by human hands (or else the equipment used to put it on, to manufacture, and test these casks, is made by humans and worked by humans.) We are not perfect beings. Seals can leak, cement can crack, even steel can degrade. And people can commit errors.

Many radionuclides concentrate in the food chain tens of thousands of times

If we poison the Great Lakes, we poison our food chain. This is one fifth of the world's fresh water.

We cannot afford to gamble. We depend on the water of our planet for life.

Enclosed is a petition that we have passed around, and on it are our reasonable requests. We have obtained thousands of signatures of concerned citizens in the Great Lakes Basin. You have the responsibility and obligation to protect the public's health, to protect our children.

It is not too much that we ask, for we ask for those generations yet to come, who are, today, voiceless. Do not turn your backs to them.

with grave concern,

Kay Haffner

KAY HAFFNER for

PALISADES WATCH -

PALISADES WATCH is a citizens group organized to stop the high-level waste dump at Palisades Nuclear Power Plant.

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We are sending the petitions to our state officials. We are concerned that many of them are completely unaware of the dry cask storage of these deadly wastes.

NUCLEAR DUMPS THREATEN GREAT LAKES AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL

THE GREAT LAKES are a precious ecosystem, embracing one-fifth of the world's fresh water. These beautiful freshwater seas and the life they sustain are irreplaceable.

At least three additional* high-level nuclear waste dumps are being planned and/or built in the Great Lakes region. Nuclear power plants at Prairie Island in Minnesota, at Point Beach in Wisconsin, and at Palisades in Michigan, are planning and/or building dry cask storage on-site for irradiated fuel rods.

Irradiated fuel is one million times more radioactive when it comes out of the nuclear plant. It is lethal and must be kept isolated from the biosphere for longer than recorded history. All containers made by human hands eventually degrade and leak.

The fuel pool that holds irradiated fuel is full. *These casks would be built to ensure further production of nuclear-generated electricity, therefore generating more of these deadly wastes.*

We are concerned that these casks will become regional and permanent dumps. These are storage casks, not transport casks. Many experts feel the casks would never be moved, since it would involve major engineering challenges to move the 125-ton loaded units.

Therefore, we, residents and friends of the State of Michigan, stand opposed to the on-site storage of high-level irradiated fuel in dry casks at Palisades Nuclear Power Plant near South Haven, Michigan, or anywhere else in the Great Lakes Basin.

We are outraged that the people who would be most affected by this storage of high level nuclear waste, the residents of the State of Michigan, were denied participation in the decision-making process.

We therefore demand the following:

- * that an environmental impact statement, with input from the public, be prepared as soon as possible;
- * that public hearings be held;
- * that a full cost/benefit analysis of this action be prepared, including the contribution of power from Palisades to the Michigan Power Grid, the profit margin of this plant over and above its full operating costs (including waste management and decommissioning costs), and the investigation of cheaper, safer alternatives for Michigan's electricity, especially electrical efficiency and the use of solar and wind power;
- * that any further construction of the casks be halted until the time that these very reasonable demands of the citizens, as stated above, be met.

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*each of the 60-plus nuclear reactors that line the Great Lakes wind and watershed, and each of their irradiated fuel pools, is a *de facto* high-level waste dump.

NUCLEAR DUMPS THREATEN GREAT LAKES
AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL
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Consumers Power Company (Palisades Nuclear Power Plant) near South Haven, Michigan, is in the process of installing dry casks for the storage of high level irradiated fuel. This is a highly dangerous and complicated procedure. In essence, this is another high-level nuclear waste dump on the shores of Lake Michigan. The contents of these casks must be kept isolated from our biosphere and food chain for centuries.

If you are concerned about this issue, we ask that you write letters immediately to:

Council of Great Lakes Governors
35 E. Wacker Drive
Suite 1850
Chicago, IL 60601

Attorney General Frank J. Kelley
Law Building
P.O. Box 30212
Lansing, MI 48909

The Michigan Public Service Commission
Mr. Steven Fetter, Chairman
6545 Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

(Your State Senators and State Representatives)
The Michigan Legislature
The State Capitol
Lansing, MI 48913

MAIL THIS PETITION TO:
PALISADES WATCH
P.O. Box 487
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
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