

021
DOCKET NUMBER
PROD. & UTIL. FAC.

40-8027-MLA

3618 Marshall Drive
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72904
July 14, 1986
DOCKETED
USNRC

Samuel Chilk
Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

'86 JUL 18 P4:53

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Dear Mr. Chilk:

SERVED JUL 2 / 1986

Your agency conducted a travesty--no, a burlesque--of a public meeting at Gore, Oklahoma, concerning possible restart of Sequoyah Fuels. Your representatives should have come seeking information. Instead, they tried to orchestrate misinformation and manipulate the press, in hopes of misleading the general public. You fooled no one!

Only after they were forced to do so by a member of the Arkansas Peace Center did your people stop mumbling and admit into the microphone that the NRC had indeed sent letters to every Kerr-McGee employee. Neither the residents near the plant nor those of us on the NRC service list for Kerr-McGee matters pending before the Commission received letters. Most people opposing restart were not allowed to speak until after most of the KM employees had spoken. The NRC obviously planned to stack the deck with KM employees, let mostly uninformed employees speak until a high percentage of the press had to leave to meet their deadlines, then feign a helpless bending to the carefully orchestrated "public will" in their anticipated granting of permission for restart. Citizens are becoming much too well informed to allow such an ill conceived plan to work.

One hundred sixty KM employees and their families were allowed to speak. Ninety-eight percent of them had nothing more scientific to say than stating their name, length of employment by KM, and their need for employment. Yet your agency was willing to allow each of them three minutes to speak. The public interest could not possibly be served without full presentation of the scientific data brought by Pat Costner of the National Water Center. NRC tried to limit her to six minutes, while being willing to allow KM 160 times 3 minutes, or 8 hours. THIS PREFERENCE FOR A SHORTAGE OF INFORMATION IS IN LINE WITH NRC'S LONG HISTORY--SINCE ITS' AEC DAYS--OF SUPPRESSING INFORMATION UNFAVORABLE TO THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY.

Those of us opposing restart base our opinion on the information in KM and NRC documents, which the employees admitted they have not read. The decision of whether or not to allow restart should not be based on the uninformed opinions of employees who would publicly defend ANYTHING they have not studied.

These employees callously put their personal gain above the health of their fellow citizens. Their willingness to proceed with this work is in no way affected by the fact that radioactive damage to the earth cannot be undone for many billions of years.

Your own document--NUREG-1157--admits there is air and water contamination from this plant within a fifty mile radius. There is no known safe level of exposure. I live forty miles downwind and downstream of Sequoyah Fuels and must insist that this plant not be allowed to restart, based on the information in your own documents.

You must recognize your responsibility to serve the public, not Kerr-McGee, or any other segment of the nuclear industry. The health of our citizens, the safety of our planet, and the integrity of the human gene pool depend upon your willingness to live up to your duty to the people. You are supposed to regulate nuclear facilities, not be their proponent.

DS02
8607220347 860714
PDR ADOCK 04008027
C PDR

Sincerely,
Paula Strachan
Paula Strachan

TO THE COMMISSION:

I live forty miles downwind and downstream of the Sequoyah Facility and am opposed to restart for the following reasons:

1.) Your own publication, NUREG-1157, admits that radioactivity from the facility is released to the air and water within a fifty mile radius. Dr. Rosalie Bertell of the International Institute of Concern for Public Health, says there is no known tolerance level and that exposure to even small amounts is detrimental to the human gene pool.

2.) Until SFC was forced to shut down after the Jan. 4 accident, they had permission to put 11,000 pounds of uranium per year into the Arkansas River, by leave of an Oklahoma Water Resources Board permit which expired July 11, 1982. Robert S. Kerr, Jr. conveniently sits on this board. It would appear that SFC is blatantly thumbing its' corporate nose at the citizens of Arkansas as it dumps uranium into our recreational and fishing waters. Radioactivity can be absorbed through the skin. If radioactivity enters the food chain, its' strength is magnified as it progresses up the chain.

3.) Both NRC and SFC have stated in their own documents that the solution to the problem of significant accumulations of uranium in the soil of the drainage ditch which carries waste from the plant to the river is a pipe to make sure all of the waste goes to the river and none stays in Kerr-McGee's soil.

If deliberately agreeing to send even MORE uranium--which NRC considers a SIGNIFICANT amount when it is on Kerr-McGee land-- to the river is the best that can be done, I ask that the plant be left closed. The NRC's own document admits that the absence of the plant would have no significant economic impact on Sequoyah County.

Whatever waste is put into the Arkansas River goes to the Mississippi and eventually to the ocean, to be taken up by plankton, eaten by fish, and enter the food chain. I ask, not just as an Arkansan, but as a citizen of this planet, that permission for restart be denied.

Paula Strachan
3618 Marshall Drive, Fort Smith, Ar. 72904