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# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

**Docket:** NRC-2020-0277

Notice of Intent to Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC; Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2

**Comment On:** NRC-2020-0277-0001

Notice of Intent To Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement; NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC, Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

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## Submitter Information

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**Government Agency Type:** Local

**Government Agency:** Physicians for Social Responsibility Wi.

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## General Comment

My name is Amy Schulz and as a nurse and president of Physicians for Social Responsibility Wisconsin. I am concerned about whether the health of the most vulnerable citizens, i.e. infants, children and pregnant women are being protected under current operating conditions of the point Beach nuclear reactors and whether they will be protected in the event of a nuclear accident, now and through the time period of the proposed license extension and eventual decommissioning of these reactors.

Embrittlement or the measure of how prone the steel reactor is to cracking has been shown to be a problem with the reactors at Pt. Beach. Will the degree of this embrittlement be measured and taken into consideration when deciding whether to extend the license of these reactors? Is annealing the reactors being considered and if so, what is the cost to ratepayers and have there been any successfully annealed reactors? How long is the annealing projected to prevent further embrittlement? Can the steel materials in the reactors be physically tested, not simply mathematically analyzed to determine its strength?

In the event of an emergency when the reactor must be quickly cooled, would the rush of cold water into the reactor cause the reactor vessel to shatter like a hot glass submerged in cold water? If so, this could result in the release of radioactive materials into the surrounding environment. What evacuation plans are in place and how often is the public educated and how often are drills practiced to respond in the event of such an accident? Have emergency responders and medical personnel been trained and equipped to rescue and to treat people that have been contaminated by a radioactive emergency? Is there potassium iodide readily available and proper recommendations on dosing in the event of an accident? Is there a plan to track, monitor and treat those that have been exposed to radioactive materials? Who will pay for the monitoring and treatment? If there is a large public event, like a Packer game at Lambeau Field, what evacuation plans are in place for those people? The reactors are dependent on electricity to keep the pumps circulating water which keep the core cool and prevent the cooling pools from overheating. At the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in Japan in 2011, most of the backup generators were destroyed as was the offsite electrical supply, ceasing the ability to cool the cores and pools, leading to the reactor

meltdown of 3 of the reactors. and fuel pool explosions. What safeguards are in place to guarantee that in the event of a power loss, the generators would be secure and that they can be resupplied in any and all circumstances before their 5 days of fuel supply is exhausted?

I am also concerned about the impact of the reactors on the air, water and soil around the reactors. Will Lake Michigan and the surrounding area be independently monitored for discharges of radioactivity, especially when fuel rods are exchanged every 18 months? How are aquatic species being affected by the discharge of warm water from the reactors? In the event of an accidental release of radioactivity into Lake Michigan and the surrounding Great Lakes, how will the drinking water for 40 million people be safely supplied? Will the farmers and those that fish be compensated for their losses related to an accident? Have the ratepayers of Wisconsin been notified of the contracts of Wisconsin Energy Power Co. (with the reactors) and is locked into an unending contract to buy Pt. Beach's power above market rate and that this price will rise by 4-5 times over the next 13 years? Will this contract be renegotiated to protect the ratepayers?

I look forward to your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Amy Schulz, RN

Perioperative Nurse

President PSR Wi.