

From: Woods, Felicia - Columbia, SC <Felicia.Woods@usps.gov>
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I am writing this e-mail, asking the NRC to consider extending the environmental assessment license for no more than 20 years instead of 40 years proposed from the Westinghouse Fuel Fabrication facility in Hopkins, SC. There have been several incidents at the plant recently (problem with a scrubber, drum fire, spiking station issues). Westinghouse has a long history of repeated violations of safety & negative environmental impacts for residents in Lower Richland.

The Lower Richland community wants better oversight (safety & environmental) of the air and water quality level around Westinghouse. We ask that the NRC not cut back on the number of inspections and monitoring of air, ground water resources and soil levels. We want SCDHEC to continue to test for uranium levels released into the atmosphere (within limits/standards for federal and state air quality regulations). The soil samples collected around the sea land containers should continue to be analyzed. We also ask for the NRC to be notified as soon as possible of any malfunction of equipment or system at the plant that releases hazardous chemicals and/or gases (VOC's). Our community wants the NRC to protect employee and public health while promoting safe practices at Westinghouse. The community advocates for the NRC to continue with annual inspections, not once every two years.

The Lower Richland community is very concerned about the discharge released into the Congaree River from Westinghouse. We want DHEC to continue taking weekly samples from the Congaree River (notifying the public of any pollutants released that are harmful to the community, environment and/or wildlife.) We're also asking DHEC to double the number of ground water monitoring wells ~ as a precaution for potential

leaks. The community has been told from DHEC that data shows that contaminants from the Westinghouse plant operations do not extend beyond Westinghouse property boundaries.

The community wants better oversight of the wastewater discharge – continue to test for high levels of nitrate-nitrogen, uranium and technetium-99 in the treatment system. There have been liner issues in the past.

We continue to ask for transparency and accountability of environmental investigations at the Westinghouse facility. We advocate for the NRC's regulatory agency to protect the community from waste emissions coming from the Westinghouse plant.

We want the NRC to be a voice for residents opposed to granting a 40-year license renewal to Westinghouse. The existing NRC license has failed in preventing numerous safety and environmental incidents at the plant. There should be a finding of significant impact to the community and no 40-year license renewal.

We don't have access to the Westinghouse safety environmental review which will be released March 2022. Past safety and environmental issues at the plant do not justify a 40-year license renewal. Westinghouse does not have a proven track record regarding employee and community safety.

The plant has been operating for over 50 years.

The NRC heard on August 26 from the public meeting webinar with local and state representatives, tribal representatives and residents about surface water and ground water contamination and how those levels exceed the applicable maximum contaminant

levels (MCLs) at Westinghouse. Also discussed during the webinar are concerns about the historic African American Denley cemetery located on the grounds at Westinghouse. An archeological study should be completed before approval of an environmental license extension. How can there be a finding of no significant impact if Westinghouse installs wells close to the area where the cemetery is located...possible soil contamination?

The majority who made comments denounced the effort of the NRC to extend these licenses without having the means to follow-up on environmental, health and safety issues.

What is needed is a regulatory agency (NRC) stepping up to the plate and not continue allowing inadequate safety and environmental practices in mostly low-income, impoverished areas where these plants are located. There is much health and economic disparity in the LR community where Westinghouse is located.

Residents of poor neighborhoods often struggle with higher crime rates, limited employment opportunities and poor health outcomes. With the effect of climate change increasing temperatures globally, what negative impacts to the Lower Richland Community will result from granting Westinghouse a 40-year license?

Please take into consideration the opposing comments received by mail, e-mail and public meeting webinar by not granting Westinghouse a 40-year license renewal.

The LR community is asking for the NRC to grant Westinghouse an

environmental assessment renewal not to exceed 20 years. The community response should be at the heart of the NRC's decision. The focus should be on helping our community to thrive and providing a safe environment for residents to live and work.

Felicia Woods
Gadsden