

From: Amy Smith (orsamy@comcast.net) Sent You a Personal Message
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2024 8:57 PM
To: Chair Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Palisades Nuclear Plant Must Remain Closed

Dear Chairmen Hanson,

I live in west Michigan in West Olive, a mile from Lake Michigan. There are other ways to get clean energy. We have solar panels on our house and 2 electric cars. We get 75% of our energy from our solar panels. We don't exactly live in the perfect place for solar but if more people had solar panels on their roof or car ports or businesses, we would not even be thinking nuclear. Our Pure Michigan does not need a nuclear power plant. We are better than that here. Please protect our Great Lakes and our state and keep Palisades closed.

I am writing to you today with a sense of urgency and responsibility towards our community and the environment. The Palisades Nuclear Plant, with a troubled history spanning over five decades, has been a source of concern for many of us. Its track record of serious problems and violations since its inception in 1971 has painted a picture of a facility that has been a public risk, both financially and environmentally. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) once classified Palisades among the four worst-performing nuclear plants in the country. This raises critical questions about the wisdom of such a decision and the potential risks it poses to our community and the environment.

Consumers Energy's decision to divest from Palisades in 2007 was a clear indicator of the financial and public risk associated with the plant. Subsequent ownership by Entergy and their reluctance to invest further underscores the precarious state of the facility. The high costs associated with nuclear energy, which is the most expensive form of energy, should be a red flag for us all. It is an outdated and inefficient solution to our energy needs, especially when compared to the rapidly advancing technologies in solar and wind energy.

We have a unique opportunity to pivot towards a sustainable and cost-effective energy future. By investing in large-scale solar and wind energy, combined with energy efficiency, storage, demand response, and distributed generation, we can meet our energy needs without the burden of nuclear energy. This approach not only promises a cleaner environment but also ensures that we do not saddle our ratepayers with unnecessary and exorbitant costs.

Before we venture further down this path, I urge you to reconsider the restart of Palisades Nuclear Plant. Let us not perpetuate a cycle of risk and financial strain. Instead, let us decommission the plant properly and responsibly, and embrace a future powered by true and affordable renewable energy. Our community, our economy, and our planet deserve nothing less.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I look forward to your commitment to a safer, cleaner, and more sustainable energy future for all of us.

Sincerely,

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