

From: Joanna Welch <jfwelch22@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 1:05 PM
To: TerraPowerEnvironmental Resource
Subject: [External_Sender] Docket ID NRC-2024-0078, Notice of Intent to Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement; US SFR Owner, LLC; Kemmerer Power Station Unit 1

Dear NRC: Program Management Office of Administration,

Dear NRC,

The proposed Natrium nuclear power plant project near Kemmerer, Wyoming is precedent-setting for the future of nuclear power and warrants a careful and thorough review.

The environmental impact statement for the Natrium reactor project must consider the environmental, economic, and public health impacts of severe nuclear accidents. The only other commercial power reactors of Natrium's type that have ever operated in the US--the Sodium Reactor Experiment near Los Angeles and the Fermi unit 1 reactor near Detroit--had a number of accidents and failures, including partial meltdowns in 1959 and 1966. The liquid sodium coolant Natrium would use is intensely flammable if the reactor were ever to leak--explosively so, if the sodium coolant were to come in contact with water.

The lack of transparency regarding the costs and financial fitness of the applicant is deeply concerning. It is crucial for the NRC to uphold all regulatory requirements, including public disclosure. The storage of nuclear waste in Wyoming is unacceptable, and no new nuclear plants should be licensed without a permanent waste disposal solution in place. The transportation risks of nuclear materials to and from the site must be comprehensively evaluated. Additionally, all impacts of uranium mining, milling, and the production of HALEU fuel for the proposed plant need to be disclosed.

The total taxpayer cost and any potential impacts on the federal debt from subsidies should be identified. The relationship between Rocky Mountain Power and TerraPower must be clarified, along with any ratepayer impacts such as higher utility bills. Finally, the EIS should consider a full range of alternatives to the proposed nuclear power plant, including lower-cost and readily available renewable energy options.

Sincerely,
Joanna Welch
2945 Lowell St
Eureka, CA 95501

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