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To: <teh@nrc.gov>
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Subject: safety concerns about plutonium use in NC/SC

66 FR 13794

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(36)

We would like to express our concerns about the possible use of plutonium in Duke Energy's McGuire and Catawba nuclear power plants.

The areas around both plants are highly populated and, in fact, Duke's development subsidiary, Crescent, plans on building more homes in both areas. There are well-known security and safety risks associated with plutonium. We all know mistakes happen. We have a fairly high amount of bank robberies in this area. Using plutonium in either location would endanger the health and safety of just too many people in one of the highest growth areas in the country.

We also understand there may also be higher costs associated with using this more refined form of uranium. We have challenges in the Charlotte metropolitan area with the pollution from Duke's coal-burning plants. We would rather see electric rates increased in this area to help clean up the emissions from those coal-burning plants than to have unnecessarily increased rates from unneeded plutonium processing and handling. (And how much would North Carolina and South Carolina consumers have to pay if we have increased rate from both initiatives?)

Thanks very much!

Respectfully yours,

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