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To: <nrcprep@nrc.gov>
Date: Fri, Oct 21, 2005 8:02 AM
Subject: Docket Number 70-7004

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(5)

TO: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission
FROM: Dr. Carol Rainey, 1497 Beacon St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45230
RE: Docket Number: 70-7004
The proposed uranium centrifuge plant in Piketon, Ohio

MESSAGE:

I attended the Environmental Impact hearing a few weeks ago in Piketon about the proposed centrifuge plant. Several of the points made at the hearing made a strong impression on me.

1. The plant will NOT have a positive impact on the economic environment. In fact, given all the tax breaks USEC is being given, it will cost money. The number of jobs created will be minimal in spite of the huge financial investment. There are other healthier jobs could be created in Southern Ohio.

2. USEC has not solved the question of what to do with the waste the enrichment plant will create. As was said at the meeting, the Conversion Plant was designed to deal with the waste from all the nuclear weapons production plants. Simply taking care of this waste will take 20 years. USEC is a private company. They should not be simply given the right to use the Conversion plant for their own economic purposes. There are also some scientists who believe that the Conversion plant itself is not a perfect solution to the nuclear waste problem. Even though the material in the canisters will be converted to a less dangerous form, the conversion process too will create waste, and at the present time it's not clear where it will be taken. The fears of the people of Piketon are that it will simply stay here. NO more uranium should be processed; the country is dying from the nuclear waste we have already.

3. Finally, I was appalled to read in the (long) impact statement that the NRC is convinced that there will be no danger to the physical environment from a nuclear plant. How can anyone in government make such a claim, given the disastrous history of the nuclear industry the last 60 years, the contamination that exists at all the nuclear sites, which is costing billions to clean? The legacy of radioactive contamination which is now in the soil and water of the whole country? USEC would have us believe that they will run a "perfect" plant, despite their own history of violations and coverups, that there will never be any kind of accident, or technical malfunction, or computer error, or human error, which will cause the release of radioactive materials. Such a claim is hard to believe. Nuclear plants are dangerous and they are unnecessary. There are much better sources of energy which are not laden with all the dangers of nuclear power.

I am strongly against the NRC granting USEC this license. Piketon is not yet cleaned up from the last enrichment endeavor; fish in the river are still radioactive; people are still sick and dying. This plant is not healthy for the environment of southern Ohio or anywhere else.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carol Rainey

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