

LeeCOLAEISComments Resource

From: Lewis Patrie [patric.wncpsr@main.nc.us]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 12:15 PM
To: LeeCOLAEIS Resource
Subject: 76 FR 79228, Dec. 21, 2011 - Duke's Proposed Nuclear Plants at Gaffney

**Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch
Office of Administration
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001**

I avow that questions still need to be addressed regarding justification of Duke Energy's proposed two nuclear reactors proposed for Gaffney, SC.

How can the inevitable costs clearly greater than \$12 billion, largely underwritten by public and ratepayer funds, be justified, when more economical alternatives for providing electrical energy needs are available? Such alternatives include reducing the current waste and inefficiency of electricity usage, and solar, wind and other truly renewable sources of electrical power.

How can the argument that the construction of new nuclear plants would benefit our economic and underemployment crises, when the alternatives identified above would be even more beneficial in these respects?

How can safety risks resulting from more nuclear reactors be justified, when there are increasing reports published of increased incidences of leukemias and cancers among people, especially children, associated with their proximity to nuclear power plants in the US and elsewhere? How can we fail to recognize that finding a safe and reasonable solution to the problems of managing radioactive waste is not available despite the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission?

Would not our decision makers better decide to instead move forward by investing in energy efficiency, conservation and clean renewable energy?

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Federal Register Notice: 76FR79228
Comment Number: 56

Mail Envelope Properties (3841DD86-95E1-4234-AF3C-694BDD2F7406)

Subject: 76 FR 79228, Dec. 21, 2011 - Duke's Proposed Nuclear Plants at Gaffney
Sent Date: 1/30/2012 12:14:35 PM
Received Date: 1/30/2012 12:14:43 PM
From: Lewis Patrie

Created By: patrie.wncpsr@main.nc.us

Recipients:
"LeeCOLAEIS Resource" <LeeCOLAEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office: main.nc.us

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	1639	1/30/2012 12:14:43 PM

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Priority: Standard
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