

SECYLettersCEm Resource

From: Craig Daniels [viewster@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 3:09 PM
To: NRCExecSec Resource
Subject: Strengthen or Close GE Reactors

I can't believe that, after the events at Fukushima Daichi, it's still necessary to write this letter.

My understanding is that the NRC Commissioners will soon vote on whether or not to require filters and rupture discs on vents used to relieve pressure from containments in a severe accident. These measures apply in particular to Mark 1 and Mark 2 reactors which were designed and manufactured by General Electric.

These reactors demonstrated their vulnerability to such accidents at Fukushima in March 2011. They suffer from serious and fundamental design deficiencies. (They actually provide only a small amount of the nation's electricity, and should be permanently closed.)

But now, nearly two years after Fukushima, the NRC has done nothing(!) to enhance the safety of these reactors. In a severe accident the amount of radioactivity released offsite from an unfiltered vent would be very large and damaging. It makes no sense not to add a filter to protect our families and property from contamination. Filtered systems are available, tested and in use today--for example in Sweden, Germany, France, Switzerland and will be installed in Japan. We shouldn't have to learn the hard way, as did Japan, the danger of not requiring filters and rupture discs before the accident.

As part of the Fukushima Lessons Learned Task Force, the NRC Staff recommended such filtering. But the nuclear industry has been lobbying shamelessly against this common-sense measure, concerned more with the size of its bank accounts than public safety.

I urge the NRC Commissioners to act to permanently close these dangerous reactors as quickly as possible. In the interim, the Commissioners must require installation of these filtered vent systems.

Should there be such an accident with one of our state-side GE reactors, I'll make an issue of having sent you this letter.

Thank you.

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