



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF NEW JERSEY

May 7, 2013

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Attn: Chairwoman Allison M. Macfarlane  
Commissioners: Kristine L. Svinicki, William D. Magwood IV, William C. Ostendorf and George Apostolakis

Re: Request for NRC to adopt NRC Staff Recommendations

Dear Chairwoman MacFarlane and Commissioners:

We are writing to urge you to affirm the NRC staff's post-Fukushima recommendation to require the fitting of engineered radiation filters onto the hardened containment vents at GE Mark I and Mark II nuclear reactors in the U.S. We are concerned for the health and welfare of New Jersey residents who would be seriously and adversely affected by catastrophic releases from Oyster Creek or Hope Creek nuclear generating stations in the event of a core damage accident.

One of the goals of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) is "*to work constructively for the maximum protection of public health and safety and the environment and for citizen participation in the decision making process at all levels of government.*" Therefore, we share the Commission's concern to ensure public safety and public trust.

Since Fukushima, it is difficult for the public to be convinced that the risk of a severe accident is so low that the need for filtered vents is not important. As we now know, the accident that occurred at Fukushima resulted in a catastrophic blow to the economic and human welfare of Japan. (We still do not know the long range global consequences of the accident).

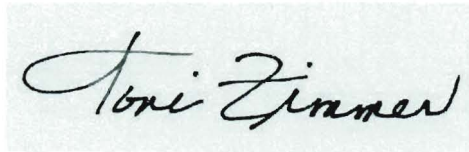
Since the inception of the nuclear industry in this country, the public has been promised multiple layers of protection from the release of harmful radiation. The greater vulnerability of containment at Mark I and Mark II reactors alone, justify and beg for very careful protection.

After a prolonged and careful study of the Fukushima accidents, your staff advised that in nearly all of the severe accident scenarios they considered, the installation of engineered reliable hardened filtered vents would significantly reduce radiological release. Their study of what happened at Fukushima -- as workers struggled to maintain the integrity of the small weak containment of the Mark I & II plants

showed -- that *it is critical to be able to relieve pressure and vent hydrogen during severe accidents in reactors of this design.*

We respectfully urge the Commission to follow the NRC staff recommendations for filtered vents, as described above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue background. The signature reads "Toni Zimmer" in a cursive script. The first name "Toni" is written with a large, flowing 'T' and 'i'. The last name "Zimmer" is written with a large 'Z' and a trailing flourish.

President

Cc: Governor Chris Christie

Edward Dickson, Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness

Bob Martin, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

**Remsburg, Kristy**

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**From:** Kerry Margaret Butch [kmbutch@lwvnj.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 08, 2013 5:48 PM  
**To:** NRCExecSec Resource  
**Cc:** tzimmer@twgpower.com; hedingern@gmail.com; Jesse Burns; jmatsen@aol.com  
**Subject:** Request for NRC to adopt NRC Staff Recommendations  
**Attachments:** LWVNJ Letter to NRC 7 May 13 TZ.docx

Dear Ms. Vietti-Cook,

Attached please find a request for the NRC to adopt NRC staff recommendations.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Kerry Margaret Butch

Kerry Margaret Butch  
Executive Director  
League of Women Voters of New Jersey  
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