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House of Representatives

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DEVELOPMENT

July 11, 2019

Kristine L. Svinicki
Chairwoman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 0 - 16G4
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairwoman Svinicki,

I write to you to express my concerns, and the concerns of many residents of Lacey Township, New Jersey, regarding the decommissioning of Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station.

Several residents of Lacey Township have conveyed to me their concern that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has not been responsive to local concerns. Particularly, it has been brought to my attention that several Lacey residents contacted the NRC in an attempt to gain answers to several questions regarding funding of the decommissioning process at Oyster Creek. As they have not heard back on these questions, I write to advocate on their behalf.

I ask that the NRC be fully transparent throughout the decommissioning process and attempt to address any issues that local residents and taxpayers may have regarding the decommissioning process. I would appreciate a prompt response to my office regarding the following concerns expressed to me by the residents of Lacey Township:

1. In the event that the cost of the Oyster Creek decommissioning is less than the amount currently sitting in the decommissioning trust fund, would those leftover funds be returned to the taxpayer or would they be left with Holtec International?
2. Similarly, in the event that the cost of the Oyster Creek decommissioning runs over the amount in the decommissioning trust fund, would taxpayers be liable for any additional costs stemming from this process?
3. Was there any kind of environmental impact study done at Oyster Creek prior to the license transfer or closure of the plant? If not, does the NRC or Holtec plan to conduct an environmental impact study?
4. Over the course of the life of the Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) at Oyster Creek, will Holtec be responsible for the long-term safety and repair of casks? What are the best practices that will define Holtec's responsibilities in that regard?
5. What is the NRC's process for inspections of the quality and safety of the casks at Oyster Creek?

6. What is the process for ensuring that the final audit of Holtec's use of taxpayer money in the decommissioning process is accurate?
7. What is the timeline for the establishment of a citizens advisory panel for Oyster Creek's decommissioning?
8. What kind of written assurances can the people of Lacey get from the NRC and Holtec in regards to financial and inspection commitments?

Again, I request that the NRC maintain full transparency in their work overseeing Holtec International's decommissioning at Oyster Creek. Ensuring trust and constructive dialogue between residents of the surrounding area at Oyster Creek and the NRC should be a top priority for both parties.

I hope that the NRC work closely alongside local representatives and engage the surrounding community to ensure proper transparency during the process. I look forward to continuing to work with the NRC to ensure a safe and smooth decommissioning process at the Oyster Creek facility.

I ask that the NRC provide a written response to these concerns *no later than August 9, 2019*. Should you require any additional information, please contact my office at (202) 225-4765.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Andy Kim
Member of Congress