

Women Speak Out for Peace and Justice
branch of
WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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USNRC

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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH



January 27, 1997

Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET NUMBER
PROPOSED RULE **PR 50**
(61FR49711)

Attention: Docketing and Service Branch

Dear Sir:

In Ohio we are experiencing the effects of deregulation of the electric industry. It remains to be seen exactly what the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and the Consumers Council of Ohio will be able to do to protect ratepayers from the new forms that utilities will take. Deregulation is a way for the utilities to capture their "stranded costs" and strangle business and residential consumers - corporate welfare at its best.

We ask that you consider the safety and economic concerns of ratepayers in Ohio. We are especially concerned about the following:

1. A Perry scram happened January 7, 1997 because of worker error. Deregulation of an aging and failing industry with profits before safety as a goal seems like the best time for the NRC to step in to increase safety inspections.
2. The competitive pressure on electric utilities will continue to increase with coming deregulation. The NRC should do all within its ability to assure the public that no maintenance be conducted with reactors at full power.
3. Decommissioning costs and nuclear waste costs are rapidly inflating. We ask that the NRC command upfront external accounts for these funds. Ohio rate payers have already footed the bill for decades of mismanagement and stockowner profits. If the NRC does not step in now, we will be left with all of the costs associated with both decommissioning, and high and low level waste storage bills.

Sincerely,

Marty Grey
Environmental Committee

Copies to:

U. S. Representative Steve LaTourette
U. S. Representative Dennis Kucinich
U. S. Representative Louis Stokes
U. S. Senator John Glenn
U. S. Senator Mike DeWine
Ohio Representative Barbara Boyd
Ohio Representative Ron Mottl

Ohio Representative June Lucas
Ohio Representative John Maier
Ohio Senator Jeffrey D. Johnson
The Plain Dealer, Business and Science Editors
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Ohio Consumers Council

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