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Notice of Intent to Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC; Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Unit Nos. 1 and 2

Comment On: NRC-2020-0277-0001

Notice of Intent To Conduct Scoping Process and Prepare Environmental Impact Statement; NextEra Energy Point Beach, LLC, Point Beach Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

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General Comment

(Beyond Nuclear, comment #9)

I am concerned about Point Beach's plan for management of radioactive steam generators. Seeking to operate for another 30 years, on top of the 50 years it already has, Point Beach could require one or more steam generator replacements in the future. This will add to an accumulation of radioactive steam generators on site. Once the nuclear power plant closes for good, there will be action taken to ship the radioactive steam generators off-site, as radioactive waste, for disposal at a dump. How will such shipments be done? Will they be barged on Lake Michigan?

A proposal to barge a grand total of 64 radioactive steam generators, from the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station in Kincardine, Ontario, Canada, on the surface waters of the Great Lakes, across the Atlantic Ocean, to Sweden, for "recycling," and return to sender radioactive waste shipments (the concentrated radioactive contamination of the steam generator tubes), a decade ago, led to a groundswell of public opposition that stretched from the Great Lakes to Europe. In the end, the shipments were stopped dead in their tracks. The Mohawks of Quebec nailed the final nail in the coffin lid on the proposed shipments, declaring they would not be allowed through their St. Lawrence River homelands.

During the course of our successful resistance struggle, to protect the Great Lakes against the risk of a drinking water emergency, if a radioactive steam generator released just a small fraction of its contents into a small volume waterway (such as the Detroit River), we learned of a secretive shipment of two radioactive steam generators, in November 2001, from Kewaunee atomic reactor in WI, near Point Beach, down Lake Michigan, through the Chicago waterways, down the Mississippi, to Memphis, for "processing." We did not find out about the shipment until a decade after it happened, thanks to U.S. Senator Russ Feingold, leading a Democratic U.S. Senate Great Lakes States delegation, demanding of NRC to release relevant documentation, in light of the Bruce Nuclear proposal.

Is Point Beach planning to barge radioactive steam generators, on Lake Michigan, through Chicago, down the Mississippi, to Memphis? Or on the Great Lakes, across the Atlantic, to Europe for "reprocessing"? Will there be return shipments, as there were to have been back to Bruce Nuclear? Will this barging be done in secret, like Kewaunee did in 2001?

Will NRC rubber-stamp such secretive radioactive waste barges on the Great Lakes, like it did -- literally overnight, in the dead of night -- with Kewaunee's shipments in 2001?

Sincerely,

Kevin Kamps

Beyond Nuclear, Radioactive Waste Specialist; Don't Waste Michigan, Board of Directors Member, representing the Lake Michigan Chapter; Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination, Advisory Board Member

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Beyond Nuclear aims to educate and activate the public about the connections between nuclear power and nuclear weapons and the need to abolish both to safeguard our future. Beyond Nuclear advocates for an energy future that is sustainable, benign and democratic.