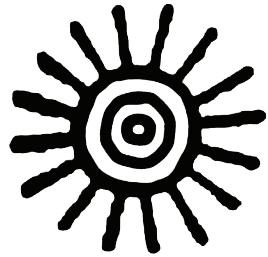


The CAN-Did Press

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CITIZENS AWARENESS NETWORK
ACT TODAY TO CHANGE TOMORROW...



When You're Losing..... What Do You Do?

When you are losing, what do you do? You change the rules! That's what Entergy and other failing nuclear corporations are attempting right now.

Entergy's merchant fleet of nukes in New England and New York are in big trouble. Entergy thought it would rake in the dough when it acquired this aging fleet of nukes at fire-sale prices. With deregulation in the Northeast, it acquired 5 nukes including Vermont Yankee and Pilgrim in MA and Fitzpatrick and Indian Point in NYS. It bought old nukes anticipating the long awaited return of the nuclear industry. This long awaited "nuclear renaissance" was just an ill-conceived public relations campaign.

It underestimated an active citizenry committed to a sustainable energy future. We understood if Entergy gained the relicensing of Vermont Yankee and other nukes in the Northeast, it would undermine the development of renewables.

With the growth of investment in renewables and the cost of solar dropping significantly, sagging energy use, and the low cost of natural gas, Vermont Yankee and other nukes are losing money—a lot of money. UBS, a financial analyst, estimated that Vermont Yankee would lose over \$120 million in the next three years!

With their profit substantially cut and no rate base to turn to to shore up their failing bottom lines, these nukes are in trouble- big trouble. It's estimated that 10 percent of the nuclear fleet could close in the next few years. Pilgrim and Fitzpatrick in NYS, like Vermont Yankee, are losing millions of dollars just operating. So guess what Entergy and other nuclear corporations like Exelon are asking for? Subsidies! More and more subsidies!

Join Us June 28 for CAN's Annual Meeting!

CAN is holding its annual meeting on June 28 from 4:00-6:00 PM at the First Congregational Church, 43 Silver Street in Greenfield, MA.

Find out what Entergy and the nuclear industry is up to! Hear what's happening and what CAN is planning in the next year.

Speakers include Chris Williams, CAN boardmember, Tim Judson, CAN president and executive director of NIRS, Amy Shollenberger, the Peoples' Lobbyist, and Deb Katz, executive director of CAN. And of course, find out what you can do!

We'll have pizza and other refreshments. Please join us!



These corporations say it's unfair that renewable energy is getting subsidies like net metering. People who put solar on their roofs are "getting a free ride" and should have to pay dearly for the transmission of their watts. Never mind that the nuke and coal industry has been heavily subsidized for years! They, with the help of the oil and coal industry, are mounting aggressive campaigns in over 30 states to undue renewable energy standards. They claim

continued on page 5

VT PSB Issues Certificate of Public Good

On March 28, 2014 the PSB (Vermont Public Service Board) issued a final order in docket number 7862, granting a Certificate of Public Good to Entergy Vermont Yankee. The 98 page order granted permission for Entergy to operate VY through the end of 2014. The PSB embraced the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding(MOU) negotiated between Entergy and the Dept of Public Service, the Agency of Natural Resources, and the Dept of Health. While the MOU and the order are less than perfect, the PSB has closed a contentious and lengthy proceeding. Had Entergy continued seeking a 20 yr certificate, the PSB made it clear that the outcome would likely have been different. The board members cited several factors relating to Entergy's poor track record as a partner with the State over the last 11 years. In light of the decision to close the reactor, the PSB ruled that it could accept a final year of operation. So in 2014 we will see the reactor in Vernon closed and the process of decommissioning off to a hopeful start.

continued on page 2

People's Lobbyist Amy Shollenberger's Report

Citizens Advisory Panel for VY Decommissioning



During this legislative session, CAN worked hard to ensure that a Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP) will be created for the decommissioning process. The language that creates the CAP was included in this year's budget bill, and it replaces what was formerly VSNAP.

The CAP will allow a formal mechanism for greater community participation in issues related to decommissioning. It will provide a forum for community members to learn about decommissioning issues and processes, and also a forum for Vermont Yankee to hear the concerns and ideas of community members. The CAP will also advise the Governor, the relevant agencies, and the Vermont legislature when the group finds an issue that it wants to weigh in on. The CAP will receive regular reports on the Decommissioning Trust Fund and will be apprised of how much money is in the fund and what expenditures are made from the fund. It will also receive site assessments and the decommissioning plans, and provide a way for the public to have input on these plans and reports.

The CAP will be formed very soon, and will get to work this summer. Stay tuned for updates. All of the CAP meetings will be open to the public and will have time for public comment.

CAN's advocacy was critical to creating the CAP. We met with members of the Shumlin Administration during the winter and spring, and shared information about Citizen Advisory Boards with them—including a white paper that was published by CAN. We also talked with other stakeholder groups. We reviewed the proposed bill and offered feedback, to ensure that the CAP was focused on the local community's needs and also to make sure that a worker would be included on the panel. We also worked in the state house to make sure the language was included in the budget (this is how the original VSNAP panel was created), and that there was support for the CAP amongst key legislators. The budget is always the last bill to pass and the CAP language was being tweaked right up until the end, but we made it in under the wire, and so now we can move forward with this important work.

Sincerely,
Amy Shollenberger, the new "People's Lobbyist"
802-793-1114
www.action-circles.com

Certificate of Public Good

continued from page 1

The Memorandum of understanding provides the following:

- Entergy will dismiss all litigation with the State of Vermont.
- Vermont Yankee can operate until December 2014.
- Entergy will contribute economic development funds for Windham County.
- Clean Energy Development Fund dollars will be released from escrow.
- Entergy will make an unrestricted contribution of \$5 million to the Vermont gen'l fund in 2015.
- Decommissioning site assessment will be completed by Dec 2014. Two years earlier than required by the NRC.
- Entergy will begin decommissioning six months after the decommissioning fund is deemed adequate.
- All existing radiological health rules will apply.
- Entergy will create a schedule/plan to move all spent fuel out of the pool by 2021. The MOU doesn't contain a binding agreement on spent fuel mgmt because the NRC must approve any plan.
- Entergy will contribute \$25 million for post radiological site remediation over the next 4 years.
- The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) will retain unabated oversight over the discharge permit.

The PSB did not rule on the issue of continued thermal

discharge into the CT River during the final year of reactor operation. Instead the board made it clear that the Agency of Natural Resources would continue with the concurrent permitting process. Recently the ANR has announced that a draft permit would soon be released and would be the subject of a public hearing. It is expected that the draft permit will direct Entergy to stop thermal pollution of the CT River and use closed cycle cooling for the remainder of 2014. When we have a date for a hearing, CAN will send out an alert. We urge people to participate and make their voices heard.

Throughout the proceedings Entergy attorneys raised repeated objections concerning a wide range of issues raised by virtually all witnesses sponsored by intervening parties. The objections became so numerous that the PSB departed from the usual procedure of ruling on them during the course of the proceeding and instead began to take most Entergy objections under advisement, deciding to make their rulings for inclusion in the final order. Within the order, the PSB members rejected all of Entergy's outstanding objections. By rejecting a mountain of company objections the PSB made it clear that the board's authority was intact and would continue to be as the process moves into closure and decommissioning.

- Chris Williams, VY organizer-CAN/VCAN

Public Participation and Democracy:

CITIZEN ADVISORY PANEL for Vermont Yankee Decommissioning

Communities affected by nuclear facilities should have the ability to participate in matters that affect them. Citizens need a substantive role in order to clarify, negotiate and protect their community's interests. A Citizen Advisory Panel (CAP) can be a mechanism to ensure greater community participation. The CAP would meet regularly to give meaningful input into decisions concerning health and safety. The CAP would function to educate their communities to the technology that exists in their neighborhood and its effects and advocate for their communities interests with regulators and corporations. Although the CAP is relevant to all stages of nuclear power production, it is especially relevant to site cleanup.

Purview of CAP:

The Panel shall serve in an advisory capacity only and shall not have authority to direct decommissioning of the Vermont Yankee. The duties of the CAP would be:

- (1) To hold a minimum of four public meetings each year for the purpose of discussing issues to the decommissioning of the Vermont Yankee. The Panel may hold additional meetings.
- (2) To advise the Governor, the General Assembly, and the agencies of the State on issues related to the decommissioning of the Vermont Yankee, with a written report being provided annually to the Governor and to the energy committees of the General Assembly.
- (3) To serve as a conduit for public information and education on and to encourage community involvement in matters related to the decommissioning of the Vermont Yankee.
- (4) To periodically receive reports on the Decommissioning Trust Fund and other funds associated with decommissioning or site restoration at Vermont Yankee, including fund balances, expenditures made, and reimbursements received.
- (5) To receive reports regarding the decommissioning plans for Vermont Yankee, including any site assessments and post-shutdown decommissioning assessment reports; provide a forum for receiving public comment on these plans and reports; and to provide comment on these plans and reports as the Panel may consider appropriate to State agencies and the owner of Vermont Yankee and in the annual report.

Participants:

- Secretary of Human Services or designee (ex officio)
- Secretary of Natural Resources or designee (ex officio)
- Commissioner of Public Service or designee (ex officio)
 - Chair until another elected.
 - Will convene first meeting.
- Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or designee (ex officio)
- Representative of the Town of Vernon, selected by Vernon select board
- One member of each of the Vermont House and Senate Natural Resource and Energy Committees
- One member of the Windham Regional Commission or designee
- 6 members of the public
 - 2 each appointed by the Governor, The Speaker, and the Senate President Pro Tem
- 2 representatives of Vermont Yankee, selected by the owner of VY
- One representative of the IBEW, selected by IBEW, who is a past or present employee at Vermont Yankee
- One member from NH, appointed by the Gov. of NH
- One member from MA, appointed by the Gov. of MA

Grabbing the Corporate Tiger by the Tail

Last year, CAN and VCAN joined groups in NY state and Eastern Massachusetts in calling for the closure of Entergy's economically troubled reactors. In a petition to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), we demanded that the agency enforce "financial qualifications" regulations that require licensees to have enough funds to operate reactors safely. As reported by Wall Street analysts, Entergy's Vermont Yankee and FitzPatrick (in New York), and possibly Pilgrim on Cape Cod, are projected to suffer major financial losses for the foreseeable future. The analysts cited these reactors as hampering Entergy's profitability and dragging down its stock value, which we pointed out is forcing Entergy to cut corners on maintaining and staffing the reactors safely.

As reported in December, our petition motivated NRC staff to begin an investigation into, not just those three reactors, but all six of Entergy's northern reactors, Indian Point 2&3 in New York and Palisades in Michigan. But in a move being investigated by Sen. Bernie Sanders and Ed Markey, NRC management quashed the investigation after Entergy complained, and told their staff never to investigate reactors' finances again. As a result, NRC staff have blown the whistle to the senators on the agency's management refusing to enforce its regulations. The agency appears to be protecting the industry from scrutiny into the safety implications of its deep financial problems.

NRC was supposed to issue a decision on our petition in December, but remained utterly silent under the spotlight of a Senate investigation. The agency notified us in January that they would not issue a decision until June 2014. In the meantime safety problems at FitzPatrick and Pilgrim have worsened. Due to a series of violations and equipment failures, Pilgrim received two "white" ratings from NRC in February. And Entergy's refusal to replace a major cooling system component at FitzPatrick has resulted in over 20 failures this year, sending the reactor off the charts of NRC's safety rating system.

At the same time, we have brought to light more evidence of Entergy's dirty dealing. In November, the NY Atty General

The idea that Entergy is operating financially distressed reactors throughout the Northeast ought to be of concern to everyone in the region.

sent a letter to NRC reinforcing our concerns about Entergy's cost-cutting. Atty General Schneiderman's letter detailed the way Entergy uses its subsidiaries to shield the parent corporation from responsibility for its nuclear plants. By using a labyrinthine network of subsidiaries, Entergy raids as much money as possible from even its unprofitable reactors, increasing the pressure on plant managers to cut costs and staff.

In addition, we identified a pattern of Entergy executives selling large amounts of

their personal stock holdings in the company. Most corporations offer their executives incentives by awarding them shares of stock, which usually encourages them to have a stake in the company's performance. But as Entergy's stock fell over the course of 2013, executives have been trading their shares in for stocks that hedge their losses. Even if this doesn't amount to rats jumping from the ship, it does broaden the picture of Entergy's shady business practices, as we have seen in VT throughout the last ten years. The idea that this company is operating financially distressed reactors

throughout the Northeast ought to be of concern to everyone in the region.

- Tim Judson, President, CAN, Executive Director, NIRS



Photo by Lionel Delvingne

CAN Contacts

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CNY: 140 Basset St., Syracuse, NY 13210 • 315-425-0430

www.nukebusters.org

Thanks!

We couldn't have done it without you:

Paul Burton • Charlene Divoky
Guacamole Foundation • Van Itallie Foundation

Entergy Changes the Rules

continued from page 1

that their nukes are a “national treasure” that can’t be allowed to fail! Now they want their nukes to be classified as “clean energy” (forget about all the high level waste) and given special status on the grid before renewables. With that status, nukes could potentially sell its “clean energy” credits to coal plants.

Why should we care about the industry’s new dirty tricks campaign?

If Entergy is successful, it will block the revolution in renewables that is underway. Entergy’s complaints are not falling on deaf ears. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the EPA and the NRC are listening. They want to help the nuclear industry out. In Illinois, legislators just passed a bill to give Exelon’s nukes “special status” after Exelon threatened to close three nukes. If other legislatures follow suit, the renewable energy revolution will be in trouble.

For renewables to succeed, we need to revolutionize the grid itself. Presently, it’s set up to support baseload power like nukes and coal that can’t power up or down in response to energy demand. The new grid needs to be adaptable and responsive, utilizing backup power like hydro to power up when needed to ensure the renewable revolution. If nuclear gains these subsidies it will lock the grid into baseload power and stymie the continued development of renewables.

Can anyone believe Entergy?

The Shut It Down Affinity Group doubts it, and continues to meet and act at the Vermont Yankee gates.

Shut It Down’s manifesto, guidelines, and mission statement commit the affinity group to civil resistance. Since December 2005, when it was launched by CAN, Shut It Down has acted more than 35 times in groups ranging from 2-15 women ranging in age from 36 - 95.



At the invitation of Smith College, Shut It Down displayed its banners, signs, photographs, and other memorabilia in the campus center in April.

If Entergy actually closes Vermont Yankee, Shut It Down plans to visit its gates periodically with the message: Clean It Up NOW!

- Marcia Gagliardi, for the Shut It Down Affinity Group

Vermont Yankee



Image by T. Price

THE FUTURE IS OURS TO CREATE

Our energy future, which looks so promising, could be held hostage to failing energy sectors. Mega corporations like Google, Apple and Walmart, which can easily afford the investment in solar, could power their businesses with the sun while ordinary people are stuck with the escalating costs subsidizing the dirty energy from nukes and coal. We can’t let this happen! We must fight for energy equity for ourselves and for our children. The sun must belong to all of us not just those who can afford it.

- Deb Katz, Exec Director, CAN



VY Book Project under way!

CAN is producing a photo journal that will document and recognize the people who worked together to shut Vermont Yankee. Share your story with us and the community. Send us a photo of yourself and a brief statement of 50-300 words. We are also looking for photos of important moments in the struggle to close VY.

Please send us your name, address, phone, email. Details will be sent. Send info to:

Harvey Schaktman – CAN

PO Box 83, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

or email: harvey@nukebusters.org

or call: 413-625-6177

Please send us the names of anyone else you feel needs to be included in the book. Provide as much contact info as you can so we can reach them.

Wood Pellet Stove Raffle

Citizens Awareness Network is raffling off a beautiful Red enamel Thelin “Parlour” Wood Pellet Stove.

The Solar Store of Greenfield is providing the 40,000 btu pellet stove as this year's grand prize. Support CAN's crucial work and keep your home toasty for years to come!

500 tickets at only \$20 a ticket!

The drawing to be held
September 20, 2014.



Raffle tickets may be purchased at
www.nukebusters.org or via phone
by calling 413-625-6177
between 9 am and noon.



The stove is available at the Solar Store of Greenfield for viewing and questions, located at 2 Fiske Ave, Greenfield just behind Antonio's Pizza and next to Mesa Verde. Stop in Tuesday-Friday 10-5 pm and Saturday 10-2 pm, or call 413-772-3122. Email: john@solarstoreofgreenfield.com



For more info on the stove: <http://thelinco.com/product/parlour-3000-pellet-stove/>