

# Citizens Awareness Network HISTORY IN THE MAKING 1991-2011

**1991** Evacuation March to Greenfield, MA on Route 2; NRC came to Rowe. 1,000 attended Rowe School hearing; NRC is forced to stay two days.

**1992** CAN discovers NRC documents that show NRC and Yankee negotiating to keep Rowe open for two years despite embrittlement. CAN contacts Ross Gelbspan at Boston Globe who does a major story. One week later Yankee closes due to "poor economics."

**1993** Opposition to Project Green Field - Rowe continues to dump radioactive waste into the Deerfield River as part of decommissioning. CAN alerts the public to the discharges. (signs along the Deerfield River); CAN intervenes in the NRC hearing on the cleanup of Yankee Rowe.

**1994** CAN sues NRC in Federal District Court for the illegal decommissioning of Rowe. Appeals to the First Circuit Appellate Court in Boston; wins lawsuit against NRC for illegal decommissioning; NRC found to be in violation of National Environmental Policy Act, Administration Procedures Act, and Atomic Energy Act. NRC has to pay CAN's court costs and provide them with a hearing on the dismantlement and cleanup of Rowe.

**1995** CAN organizes "People's Hearing on Decommissioning" - Held in the courthouse in Greenfield, MA. Marvin Resnicoff and David Lochbaum participate as expert witnesses.

**1996** 2nd and 3rd "Caravan of Conscience" tours to Barnwell, SC. Second Tour focused on transport of Yankee Rowe's reactor vessel to Barnwell, SC. These tours were held to protest the shipment of Yankee Rowe's waste to Barnwell, SC. CAN organized local groups along the transport route to oppose the waste shipments and the targeting of communities of poor people of color for nuclear contamination.

**1997** CAN instrumental in closure of Connecticut Yankee and Millstone Unit 1.

**1998** 1996-98 CAN and NIRS hold Action Camps in southern Vermont- focused on training activists to advocate in their communities; Engaged in non-violent civil disobedience at Vermont Yankee. Over 1,000 people participated in Action Camp activities.

**1999** CAN conducts Nukes 101 teach-in at Syracuse Peace Council, invites Syracuse Anti-Nuclear Effort to join Nuclear Free New England Action Camp. Syracuse activists begin traveling to New England to plan region-wide shutdown campaign. CAN expands to a regional group with chapters in MA, VT, CT, & NY. Third Tour focused on CT Yankee waste traveling from Haddam, CT to South Carolina. CAN intervenes in the cleanup of CT Yankee.

**2000** Indian Point 2 steam generator tubes rupture, leading to emergency and year-long shutdown. West-CAN chapter formed as mobilization to close Indian Point 2 reaches highest point in more than a decade.

**2001** Nuclear Free Northeast Action Camp and - presents VT Yankee with baby's coffins and attempts to arrest them for being a bad Nuclear Neighbor. Created the Declaration of Nuclear Independence. Con Edison whistleblowers begin leaking internal condition reports to CAN demonstrating systemic mismanagement at Indian Point 2. CAN files 2.206 petition to close the reactor.

**2002** CAN conducts "Paul Revere Rides Again Tours" in New York, organizing activists against sales of Nine Mile Point 1 & 2 to AmerGen, FitzPatrick and Indian Point 3 to Entergy. Later granted hearing on Indian Point 2 license transfer. CAN produces the "Summit on High Level Waste" in CT - bringing together reactor and waste groups from across the country creating a waste policy that supports all communities. The Summit establishes the concept of HOSS - Hardened on-Site Storage of High Level Waste.

**2003** CAN Board retreat at farm of Stu Wexelbaum & Lynn Loflin.

**2004** Witt Report issued confirming impossibility of Indian Point evacuation plans. Creation of *High Level Waste - Vulnerability to Terrorism Report* by Gordon Thompson from the Institute for Research and Security Studies. Form the Nuclear Security Coalition to address waste security issues; submit 2.206 petition on spent fuel pool vulnerability. Hold forums on Spent Fuel pool vulnerability throughout the Northeast. Instrumental in National Academy of Science creating a report on the vulnerability of high-level waste at reactor sites.

**2005** CAN holds campaign strategy sessions to create new mission and refocus. CAN creates a positive message-Green by 2015, Act Today to Change Tomorrow.

**2006** CAN holds benefit play "Marx in Soho" by Howard Zinn, filling Memorial Hall in Shelburne Falls, MA. CAN is co-founder of summit in Northern Vermont to create a strategy to replace Vermont Yankee with sustainable energy solutions. Focused on denying Entergy a Certificate of Public Good to continue to operate in Vermont. Form coalition- Safe Power Vermont-CAN, VPIRG, Nuclear Free Vermont, Sierra Club, and organize to ensure passage of ACT 160 to empower the Vermont legislature to decide whether VY can continue to operate based on reliability and the issuing of a CPG.

**2007** CAN files series of 2.206 petitions against Entergy documenting safety coverups, retaliation against whistleblower, hostile work atmosphere, and NRC collusion.

**2008** Disfunctional Family Jazz Band does benefit for CAN.

**2009** CAN forms sister organization Vermont Citizens Action Network and hires Bob Stannard, a lobbyist, to serve in the State-house in Montpelier, VT as the "Peoples Lobbyist" representing the tri-state community of Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. March Fukushima Disaster in Japan CAN & Safe & Green organize a Solidarity Vigil at the reactor to honor the victims of the Nuclear Disaster in Fukushima Japan. Over 650 people attend.

**2010** February - Senate defeats call for continued operation. Democracy prevails. Legislators receive 1000 phone calls from constituents. CAN organizes Decommissioning and Accountability Forums in Vermont, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

**2011** Entergy tries for another vote, fails and sues the state of Vermont. Court Case on going.

**2012** The Year of Accountability.

**1991** Lightening Strikes Yankee Rowe and VT Yankee on fathers day; Union of Concerned Scientists submits 2.206 petition on Embrittlement of Rowe reactor vessel to NRC; Local people begin meeting at the Charlemont Inn- 100 people meet weekly for over a year; organize an educational campaign to close Rowe.

**1992** Steam generators removed from Yankee Rowe; Yankee chooses "Rapid Dismantlement" of Rowe reactor; CAN produces a Death March on the road carrying 1st "Caravan of Conscience Tour" to Barnwell, SC. CAN Follows the steam generators to SC and protests at Chem Nuclear's corporate headquarters.

**1993** 1996 Franklin County Fair Nuclear Waste Tour, Northampton, MA Rae C Wright; Court Dorsey 1996

**1994** CAN organizes "People's Hearing on Decommissioning" - Held in the courthouse in Greenfield, MA. Marvin Resnicoff and David Lochbaum participate as expert witnesses.

**1995** CAN organizes "Run for Your Life" event from VT Yankee to Brattleboro—with death randomly taking people's lives along the route. Plane's message over Long Island Beach.

**1996** Steam Generators leaving Haddam, CT. Mildred Meyers, 1997.

**1997** Helen Caldicott speaks in Syracuse, NY in about dangers of nuclear power; future CAN activists begin organizing to close Nine Mile Point Unit 1.

**1998** CAN conducts meeting with Indian Point activists in Peekskill, NY to begin organizing campaign, leads to formation of West-CAN chapter.

**1999** CAN organizes campaign to block dry-cask storage of irradiated fuel at FitzPatrick reactor. Files 2.206 petition with NRC, starts first door-to-door organizing campaign in Oswego, NY, gathering hundreds of signatures.

**2000** "Paul Revere Rides Again" tours in North and South VT to educate the public about the sale of VT Yankee. Intervention in sale of Vermont Yankee to first AmerGen, and then Entergy. CAN also intervenes in the sale of Indian Point, NY reactors to Entergy. CAN organizes "die-in" at August New York State Fair to close Indian Point. CAN travels to Illinois to support Midwest Action Camp, trains activists in organizing, campaign strategy, organizational development.

**2001** High Level Waste Tour- organized a wagon train of high-level waste casks to travel across U.S. to protest the proposed shipments of waste to Yucca Mountain, NV. CAN begins working with FitzPatrick whistleblower on terrorism and fire vulnerability problems. Organizes solidarity demonstrations to support whistleblower, inspires other workers to supply CAN with safety information.

**2002** High Level Waste Tour to Skull Valley-Goshute Reservation in Utah to protest the targeting of the Goshutes for storage of high-level waste on their reservation. CAN organizes with groups along the transport routes.

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**2004** FITZPATRICK WHISTLEBLOWER WINS INITIAL CASE AGAINST ENTERGY. CAN seeds concept for Public Power campaign with Green Party in Syracuse. Public Power becomes defining issue in city elections. CAN begins organizing throughout the state to engage groups and people in the "Replace VY Campaign."

**2005** CAN helps lead CNY Public Power Coalition, gets Syracuse City Council to unanimously override Mayor to fund feasibility study for utility takeover. CAN begins supporting newly formed affinity groups in performing civil disobedience at Vermont Yankee's corporate headquarters. CAN begins supporting successive groups in risking arrest. "Shut It Down" forms from these actions.

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**2007** CAN files series of 2.206 petitions against Entergy documenting safety coverups, retaliation against whistleblower, hostile work atmosphere, and NRC collusion. CAN begins its legislative strategy and begins door knocking in priority districts throughout Vermont. Rutland Walk for a Nuclear Free Future. VY Decommissioning Alliance Action in Brattleboro.

**2008** CAN organizes Decommissioning and Accountability Forums in Vermont, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. CAN brings Arjun Makajani to Vermont to discuss replacement power with legislators. Creating a Carbon, Free Nuclear Free workshop to train organizers to advocate for sustainable energy solutions.

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