

IMPORTANT PETITION AGAINST EXPOSURE TO RADIATION I

PETITION TO THE U.S NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND THE AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY (A DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE/ U.S. DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES) OF PAMELA HLOCKEY-O'BRIEN'S "PETITION FOR DIRECTORS DECISION UNDER 10 CFR 2.206 TO THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION ON OCT. 3RD, 1994." (USNRC DOCKET 50-160)

FOR:

- A) Liscence revocation and shutdown of the Neely Nuclear Research Reactor and support facilities and removal of all radioactive contamination and materials. The reactor is on the campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) in downtown Atlanta, near housing for the poor and adjacent to where 10,000 Olympic Athletes/visitors will be housed. It is on unstable ground, has no real containment dome, is in an earthquake zone, has contaminated surrounding soil, vegetation and sewer systems, vents radiation to air and has a history of problems. Approx. 400,000 Curies of (radioactive) Cobalt-60 are also stored on site and approx. 6,000 Curies of Cesium-137 are stored under the floor of a nearby building.
- B) Liscence withdrawal NATIONWIDE involving the discharging or dumping of ANY quantity of radioactive material to all sewers or waters of the United States or oceans of the world.
- C) Liscence withdrawal from ALL nuclear facilities, including nuclear power plants, nationwide, which operate under "As Low As Reasonably Achievable"(ALARA) principles.

Explanation of reasons for request to NRC:

Contrary to popular belief, the entire nuclear fuel cycle - from mining of uranium, to transportation of nuclear materials, to manufacture of nuclear weapons/projectiles/so-called "Depleted Uranium" armour piercing munitions, to nuclear power plant and nuclear research reactors - ALLOWS the emission of DEADLY RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS TO AIR, SOIL, VEGETATION AND WATER, as they operate under a system called "ALARA". It means, you're allowed to release radioactive crud to the environment as long as releases are kept As Low As Reasonably Achievable i.e. ALARA, depending on what you want to spend on containing releases, what available equipment you have, and such. In other words it puts economics above concern for health on the environment. Due to the nature of radiation, such releases under ALARA permit illness contamination and deaths. The only way to avoid these deaths - which medical nuclear expert Dr. John Gofman calls "planned deaths" - is to have ZERO releases.

THERE IS NO "SAFE LEVEL" OF RADIATION, whether naturally occurring or human made. The so-called "permissible" and "allowable" doses/limits/guidelines/standards are a bunch of hogwash. They grew out of recommendations made 44 years ago by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). The ICRP itself had accepted standards agreed upon by nuclear physicists from the Manhattan Project (WWII atomic bomb project) even though these physicists had NO health credentials. Although the ICRP has issued some updates it persists in its basic views/recommendations "to allow reasonable latitude for the expansion of atomic energy programs" - not to protect health. Even NRC admitted in 1978 there was no safe level of exposure, a fact that had been known for years. The effects of radiation are cumulative. Any exposure constitutes a threat as ionizing radiation seriously disrupts the chemistry of the cell, leading to later events we may see as lymphoma, leukemia, breast or lung cancer, asthma, spontaneous abortion, heart problems, deformed offspring, sterility, ovarian/reproductive problems, thyroid problems, or death. Workers in nuclear industries are allowed to be exposed to even higher levels of radiation than the current appalling levels allow to the general public. Furthermore, as soon as they enter the workplace such workers are not considered to be "members of the public" by NRC and industry any more, so less protection is given. The deadly effects of Cobalt-60 and Cesium-137 are well known. Cobalt-60's effects on DNA at low exposure are horrendous, let alone that exposure to CO-60 and C-137 can kill.

Radiation cannot be rendered harmless. It has to decay to its stable state which may take millions of years. The term "half-life" means nothing except that its still radioactive. e.g. if you take Cesium -137, (with a half- life of approx. 30 years) in the amount of a pound, at the end of thirty years, you'd have half a pound, at the end of 30 more years a quarter of a pound, at the end of 30 more years an eighth of a pound etc. it takes ten 20 half-lives on average for something to go through various stages of radioactive decay to become stable/harmless (this example is given to illustrate the idea of "Half-life" be a useless phrase when it comes to safety, as most people think when the half-life is reached, everything's fine). When radioactive contaminants are dumped to sewers, they wind up eventually often in drinking water, having contaminated lines, treatment plants, sewage sludges and creeks/rivers en route to drinking water intake plants. It is a major public health problem exposing people to yet another cumulative dose daily.

As a guardian (supposedly) of the public's health, ATSDR MUST INTERVENE and make sure requests in this petition to NRC are honored and implemented. Zero exposure to radiation from all man-made/induced activities is a must. Not much can be done about naturally occurring background radiation to which we are all exposed and which in turn causes us health problems, aging etc. but the aforementioned extra exposure can be eliminated to a great extent.

You are strongly urged to support this petition. US nuclear guidelines are generally adopted/followed worldwide, so the stupidity on this issue has already spread because press and public generally bought into all the hogwash and believed they were protected and asked few questions. Above and below ground (which vents) nuclear testing by the US, Russia, China, Britain, France and others have saturated much of the earth with fallout, causing approx. 6 million cancer deaths worldwide by 1963 (when aboveground tests stopped which would not have otherwise occurred according to former soviet dissident nuclear scientist Andrei Sakarov. Millions more have died since. We do not need any additional exposure. Remember, radiation is unsafe at any level.

- | Name | address (optional) | Town/zipcode/state (needed) |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
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Please make three copies of (both pages) your completed petition, mail to:

- 1. The Executive Director, US NRC, Washington, DC 20555-0001
- 2. Petitioned Health Assessment Co-ordinator, John Steward, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, 1600 Clifton Rd. N.E. (E-28), Atlanta, Georgia 30333
- 3. Pamela Hlockey-O'Brien, (I.F.O.R.), c/o D23 Golden Valley, Douglasville, Georgia 301

Thank you for your support.

(Please copy both pages of this petition before signing and mail out to friends, groups & put on the Internet, fax it out. Suggested reading "NO IMMEDIATE DANGER -prognosis for a radioactive earth" by Dr. Rosalie Bertell)