

From: "Mike Driver" <gizmo@brtc.net>  
To: <LES\_EIS@nrc.gov>  
Date: 3/4/04 12:21AM  
Subject: Caution - Danger

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To whom it may concern:

This is to fully endorse the following letter from Vina Colley, to the citizens of Eunice, concerning the adverse effects of having the proposed nuclear plant in your location. My wife and I own a Country Bed & Breakfast, which has given us opportunity to meet people from all over the nation. Those who live near these DOE facilities that process nuclear products, DOD test sites and firing ranges where Uranium Ammunition has been tested, report the same effects to the population of their communities. Our government uses the fact that we are "spread out" to keep us uninformed and prevent us from sharing the truth, but dozens of local community groups have been developed all across America for the purpose of exposing the truth.

I was delighted to go to work at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant in 1984. If I knew what I know now, I would never have gone near the plant. Not only has my health been ruined, ( disabled at age 48 ) but I know of hundreds of workers and plant neighbors that have been poisoned by the byproducts of the plant processes.

It is my opinion that this area would have been better off to have remained predominantly a rural farming community rather than having the plant come here in the first place. People are poisoned and ignored by the DOE. Groundwater is contaminated and the soil is, also.

It is true that the local economy has been strengthened by the presence of the plant, but the cost in lives, including my father-in-law, has been to great. When you hear of someone else dying, it's tragic. When it's yourself, or one of your own, it's devastating. Give careful consideration if your economic growth is worth the lives of your families.

Blessings,

Permission given to reprint, copy, or quote the above letter.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 2, 2004  
Contact: Vina Colley, PRESS, 740-259-4688  
or vcolley@earthlink.net

With permission from Vina Colley, president of PRESS, the Citizens Nuclear Information Council releases the following statement to be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding the proposed uranium enrichment facility in Lea County.

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Statement by Vina Colley, President, Portsmouth/Piketon Residents for Environmental Safety and Security (PRESS) on the uranium enrichment facility proposed to be built by Louisiana Energy Services (LES) in Eunice, New Mexico submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, March 4, 2004

As one who knows first hand the physical horror of radioactive exposure, I urge the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the people of Lea County, New Mexico, to reject the application by LES to build a

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For RECS = ADM-03  
Call - Mr. Johnson (RECS)  
Mr. Wong (MOR)

uranium enrichment facility outside Eunice.

I was once a healthy young woman enticed by the promise of a secure job in an growing industry when I became an electrician at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Ohio.

Over a period of time, I was exposed to a wide array of radioactive and hazardous substances which have adversely affected my health. These adverse affects include immune system dysfunctional, organic brain syndrome secondary to TCE exposure, short-term memory loss, thyroid problems bronchitis, 50% pulmonary dysfunction, osteoarthritis from fluoride exposure, Fibromyalgia, and calcified gramulomas. I have had three tumors removed, one of which was in the back of my head, and undergone a total hysterectomy.

If Lea County is anything like Portsmouth, people there are eager for the promise of steady employment. Given all I and many of my co-workers have been through, please allow me to state the obvious: the risk to your health -- or the health of your son, daughter, husband or wife -- if you work in one of the facilities is not worth any amount of pay or perceived security.

Also, given the fact that the applicant, Louisiana Energy Services, has not solved the problem of deconversion and storage of the waste this plant would produce, I can only recommend that this application be rejected if for that reason alone. We know from our experience in Paducah, Portsmouth and elsewhere that prolonged storage of nuclear waste can and does leak into and damage the environment.

If I can save only one individual from suffering the fate I have experienced, my efforts will be worth. By rejecting this application, you can potentially save an entire community.

Respectfully.

Vina Colley.

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