



Environmental Justice Requires Public Participation

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CAA Section 112

In 1989, EPA established its risk policy by deciding that the life-time excess risk of cancer, or maximum individual risk (MIR), to any given toxic should not be greater than one in 10,000 (1×10^{-4}). In the same year, EPA promulgated its final rule for radionuclides, that protects the public from a MIR risk of 1×10^{-4} but also regulates to protect 90% of the people within eighty kilometers of a source to risk levels of 1×10^{-6} using the two-step approach required by the *NRDC v. EPA* case. (138)

MACTs: Technology Based Standards

For new sources, MACT must be at least as stringent as the average emissions achieved by the best controlled sources in the same category. For existing sources, MACT may not be less stringent than the average emission limitation of the best performing 12% of existing units. Where there are few sources, the average of the best performing five sources is to be used. Hazardous pollutants are to be controlled by the reduction in emissions through process changes, substitution of materials or other modifications, as well as through the use of traditional pollution control devices and work practices. (254)

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2007-04

February 5, 2007

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 2007-04: CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE RELATED TO THE ASSURANCE OF QUALITY IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES

In both Finland and the United States, interest in new reactor and fuel cycle facility construction is resuming after many years. However, the problems currently being identified in Finland are very similar to those that occurred in the United States more than 20 years ago. Regardless of the licensing process and the type of construction, a commitment to quality, instilled early in a nuclear construction project, is important to ensure that the facility is constructed and will operate in conformance with its license and the NRC's regulations.

UNITED STATES NRC OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION

Insufficient guidance of subcontractors' work in Olkiluoto 3 nuclear power plant project

*This past March, the Finnish Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) appointed an investigation team to assess compliance with safety requirements in the construction of Olkiluoto 3 nuclear power plant unit. In its report published today, the investigation team states that the major problems involve project management, in particular with regard to construction work, but not nuclear safety. The power plant vendor has selected subcontractors with no prior experience in nuclear power plant construction to implement the project. These subcontractors have not received sufficient guidance and supervision to ensure smooth progress of their work. The investigation team provides recommendations both to the buyer and the vendor company. **Furthermore, there is also room for improvement in the practices of the regulatory body.***

December 7, 2006

http://www.stuk.fi/stuk/tiedotteet/en_GB/news_419/

Environmental Justice

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Senate Resolution 598

Senator Thomas of the 2nd

- WHEREAS, four counties within 40 miles of Plant Vogtle have areas that are persistently distressed and suffer from unemployment or poverty; and
- WHEREAS, radiological monitoring programs reveal that Savannah River fish, particularly resident game fish species, are contaminated with cesium 137. Large mouth bass are contaminated with cesium 137 and are a target species of subsistence fishermen on the Savannah River. Recreationally important fish species in the vicinity of Plant Vogtle routinely have been found to have detectable levels of cesium 137 in the edible flesh of collected samples; and
- WHEREAS, African American and low-income individuals are at specific heightened risk from hazardous materials in the Savannah River, and although individuals from all socioeconomic backgrounds engage in fishing in the area, African Americans in particular commonly engage in subsistence fishing along the Savannah River and have a higher than average consumption of fish, frequently surpassing allowable contaminated fish consumption levels.