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October 7, 2008

Mr. William Storm  
State Planning Director  
MN Dept of Commerce  
85-7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

REF: Red Wing, Public Hearing – 9/10/2008

RE: Submission of Remarks Presented at the Meeting

Dear Mr. Storm,

Submitted is a summary of my verbal remarks made in Red Wing, MN on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 in regards to the environmental assessment scoping CON public meeting.

#### SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

1. In regards to water temperature at point of plant discharge is in question. Reported was that water temperature was 3 degrees higher at discharge point and one mile downstream water temperature increases no more than .10 degrees. In reality I believe these numbers are incorrect. In January 2007, Lake Pepin, at Lake city, MN was totally ice free for most of the month. This event is unheard of in recorded history. I will not accept this to “global warming” theories, but to warmer water being discharged from the Prairie Island (PI) nuclear power plant.
2. With the thinning of ice cover over Lake Pepin has significantly affected the livelihood of many businesses in Lake city that depend on tourism and visitors to ice fish, ice boating, skating across the lake. As late as the 1950’s MnDOT opened a temporary highway across the lake for Wisconsin residents to cross the frozen lake to shop in Lake City. This does not occur any more because of the thinness of ice cover. This significantly impacts local business profitability and the ability to stay in business.
3. Also when talking with ice fisherman, to catch any quantity or size of fish they will tell you fish off Dam & Lock #3 which is close to the PI power plant.

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4. There is NO coordination with the US Army Corps of engineers (USACE) who have control and responsibility of the upper Mississippi River channel. The USACE is re-dredging the 9-foot channel depth, and there are discussions and plans to take the channel to 12 feet. Also the USACE conducts water draw down for shoreline management, flood control, etc, thus by lowering of water levels, coupled with PI discharging warmer water is causing an ice free condition in Pool Number 4.
5. With the location of the nuclear power plant, there always could exist a compromising scenario. Using a 50-mile radius from the PI plant, I do not believe many city or town ship districts are adequately prepared to handle a nuclear related emergency.
6. Insure a safety and security zone is adequately enforced in meeting homeland security protection criteria.
7. Are the construction of facilities, casks, storage and production capabilities in compliance to strict Federal guidelines, to include use of certified suppliers, use of certified and top grade materials, a process in place to insure substitute materials meet tough regulatory and FAR criteria.
8. Insure that constructing the additional 48 storage casks, this does not lend to housing spent fuel rods from neighboring nuclear power plant facilities.
9. Is the water discharge as to turbidity, clarity, and composite of the surrounding waters meeting Federal standards.
10. What measures are in place to utilize latest technologies to extract more fuel out of supposedly spent fuel rods to obtain longer life, and reduce the radiation levels by having lower radiation emitting from a more used rod.
11. If the goal at some future time, is to transport spent fuel rods, or loaded casks to other out-of-state storage facilities there are motor and rail equipment issues, weight and height issues, hazardous material handling issues, driver certifications, and lastly, city, county and state approval for each government entity in the route of moving spent fuel to over come.

Thank you for allowing to share some concerns regarding the expansion of the storage capabilities of spent fuel rods at PI.

Sincerely,  
Andru Peters

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