

*** Beyond Nuclear * Citizens Environment Alliance ***

*** Don't Waste Michigan * Green Party of Ohio ***

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Coalition Challenges Davis-Besse License Extension

Wind and Solar Capable of Replacing Nuclear Power

Severe Accident Consequences Not Considered

Port Clinton, Ohio -- Tuesday the environmental coalition of Beyond Nuclear, Citizens Environment Alliance, Don't Waste Michigan and Green Party of Ohio officially challenged the Davis-Besse 20 year license extension as Intervenors before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB). The proceedings were held in the city of Port Clinton at the Common Pleas Court and began at 9:00 a.m. and concluded at 4:30 p.m.

Intervenors presented riveting documentation and expertise of the vast availability of shovel ready power from solar and wind. Intervenors contend that the electricity generated at Davis-Besse can be replaced several times over by wind and solar, in combination with storage. The expert testimony of Alvin D. Compaan, Ph.D., Distinguished University Professor of Physics, Emeritus, at the University of Toledo and UT physics student, Kathryn Hoepfl, have provided Intervenors with analysis showing that a combination of wind and solar could readily replace Davis-Besse.

"The good news is that vast renewable energy sources, such as wind power and solar Photovoltaics, coupled with energy efficiency, are ready and cost-effective today. Efficiency and renewables will benefit everyone's pocket book, health, safety, and environment, and do not risk catastrophic radioactivity releases for the sake of corporate greed," said intervenor Joe DeMare of Rossford, Ohio, a Wood County Green Party member.

"Opposition to nuclear power is in keeping with the Greens' Key Principle of Ecological Wisdom," he added.

The intervention filing and its defense extensively documented the vast offshore wind power potential of Lake Erie, as well as vast on-land wind power potential in Ohio, and the ability of a combination of wind power and solar Photovoltaics can readily displace Davis-Besse.

Again this year FirstEnergy has requested exemptions for not meeting solar and renewable standards set by the state of Ohio. The environmental coalition clearly articulated the position that the Davis-Besse nuclear power plant is not necessary. "What was demonstrated was that the Emperor has no clothes, Davis-Besse is not needed going forward." said Michael Keegan with Don't Waste Michigan.

Intervenors additionally contend that there is grossly inadequate Severe Accident Mitigation Analysis (SAMA) in place. A severe accident at Davis-Besse could claim ten thousand lives due to cancer, tens of thousands of injuries while costing over \$180 billion in property damage (based on the NRC CRAC2 Report).

Canadian Intervenors have expressed heightened concern that they may not even be notified in the event of a severe accident. "These inadequacies, ambiguities and non-considerations demonstrate that the Severe Accident Mitigation Analysis is defunct" stated Kevin Kamps of Beyond Nuclear.

During the proceedings Intervenors have entered into the record the recent acknowledgment that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) do not agree among themselves which agency would oversee mitigation in the event of a severe accident. Which agency would be responsible for clean up and which would cover costs is unresolved.

The ASLB will now consider the oral presentations from FirstEnergy, NRC Staff and Intervenors along with Intervenor written contentions and all of the various responses and replies. The hearing on Tuesday was to determine if the coalitions petition to intervene can continue. The ASLB stated that they anticipate a ruling within a 45 days. To date the Atomic Safety Licensing Board has approved 61 of 61 license extensions even though many were contested. There are applications still pending, Davis-Besse is now among those pending. Intervenors must exhaust Administrative Procedures with the ASLB and NRC before they can seek relief outside of Nuclear Regulatory Commission jurisdiction.