

Press Advisory

Community Meeting Opposing the 20 Year License Extension at Palisades Nuclear Power Plant

When:

Saturday, December 17, 2005, from 1 to 3 pm (informal discussion till 4 pm for those who can stay that long)

Where:

South Haven Memorial Library, located at 314 Broadway in downtown South Haven, Michigan. Parking is available in the lot south of the library, and in the Huron Street lot west of the library.

Who and What:

David Kraft from Nuclear Energy Information Service in Evanston, Illinois will describe citizen epidemiology, a grassroots door-to-door method that could be used to assess what health impacts around Palisades can be attributed to radiation releases from the reactor.

Kevin Kamps from Nuclear Information and Resource Service in Washington, D.C. and Alice Hirt of Don't Waste Michigan in Holland will give updates on the citizen intervention before the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's licensing board against the 20 year license extension being sought by Palisades. They will also discuss recent developments, such as major announcements that Palisades will replace its deteriorated reactor vessel head, and that CMS/Consumers Energy has put Palisades up for sale (seeing as Exelon Nuclear, based in Chicago, is the most likely of any utility to buy Palisades, David Kraft can give us the inside scoop about Exelon – he's been watch-dogging it – and its predecessor Commonwealth Edison -- for nearly 25 years!).

Maynard Kaufman and Barb Geisler of Michigan Land Trustees, as well as Chuck Jordan of the Green Party of Van Buren County (all official intervenors against the Palisades license extension) will be in attendance and can discuss renewable energy alternatives to nuclear power, such as wind power and solar power, as well as energy efficiency.

Ken Richards of South Haven will discuss the formation of a local Palisades conversion group, seeking to preserve jobs at Palisades, such as by converting the work there over to environmental clean up and environmentally-protective activities.

A question and answer period and brainstorming session will follow the presentations. Everyone concerned about Palisades can join the discussion and help formulate a strategy to block the 20 year license extension!

For more information, contact: Alice Hirt, Don't Waste Michigan, home 616.335.3405, cell 616.218.6511; Kevin Kamps, NIRS, office phone 202.328.0002 ext. 14, cell phone 240.462.3216.

This event is sponsored by NIRS, Don't Waste Michigan, Coalition for a Nuclear-Free Great Lakes, and the Green Party of Van Buren County. These organizations are part of a coalition of two dozen grassroots environmental, public interest, and safe energy organizations representing hundreds of thousands of Michigan residents in opposition to the 20 year license extension at Palisades.