

July 13, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION FAULTED FOR
SKEWED “PUBLIC” MEETING
CALLED ON TO HEAR FROM THE LARGEST ENERGY USERS AND EMPLOYERS IN
VERMONT**

Montpelier, VT/July 13, 2010 – In a letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Gregory Jaczko released today (see attached), the Vermont Energy Partnership expressed its “concern and disappointment” in the NRC for conducting a “one-sided stakeholder meeting with anti-nuclear activists to discuss the future of Vermont Yankee” during Chairman Jaczko’s July 14 visit to Vermont.

“After repeated requests, the NRC has chosen to exclude Vermont’s business and labor community from this critical discussion about Vermont Yankee,” said Brad Ferland, president of the Vermont Energy Partnership. “This is not the Vermont way and we call on Chairman Jaczko to make time to directly hear our concerns about why Vermont Yankee is important to Vermont during his visit to Vermont this week.”

The Vermont Energy Partnership (www.vtep.org) is a diverse group of more than 90 business, labor, and community leaders committed to finding clean, affordable and reliable electricity solutions. Its mission is to educate policy makers, the media, businesses, and the general public about why electricity is imperative for prosperity, and about the optimal solutions to preserve and expand our electricity network. Entergy, owner of Vermont Yankee, is a member of the Vermont Energy Partnership.

July 13, 2010

The Honorable Gregory B. Jaczko
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SENT VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

On behalf of our more than 90 member organizations and community leaders who include, among others, businesses and labor organizations that represent the biggest employers and energy users in the State of Vermont, we are writing to express our concern and disappointment that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has denied our participation in the stakeholder meeting on Wednesday, July 14.

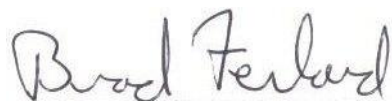
In our view, having a one-sided stakeholder meeting with anti-nuclear activists to discuss the future of Vermont Yankee during your visit to the state sends a negative message to supporters about the NRC's position on this issue who are looking to your agency for fact-based assessments, analysis, and determinations that will affect Vermont's economic recovery and future way of life.

Vermont Yankee's continued safe and reliable operation is very important to Vermont's economy. The plant directly and indirectly employs more than 1,200 workers in Vermont and is essential to keeping Vermont's electricity prices competitive and our air clean.

Though we have repeatedly sought an audience with you during your visit, we are formally requesting that you grant us time to meet with you and senior members of your staff to speak with us and other business and labor leaders in Vermont. This will enable you to more appropriately gauge the issues surrounding the continued operation of this facility beyond the viewpoints of anti-nuclear activists with whom you have a scheduled meeting tomorrow.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We urge you to reply favorably to our request as soon as possible so we can make the appropriate arrangements for a meeting tomorrow.

Sincerely,



Brad Ferland
President

Cc:

Joshua C. Batkin, Chief of Staff
John D. Monninger, Deputy Chief of Staff

Diane Screnci, Senior Public Affairs Officer
Neil A. Sheehan, Public Affairs Officer