

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Vermont Yankee Public Meetings | Responses | Rutland

1. WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT THE VERMONT YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER FACILITY?

The Governor is not seriously looking at any other options	12
Waste could impact ground water quality	4
Can we reconstitute the rods that are at VY now?	
Loss of jobs and tax base if VY is shut down	8
Upgrade will impact the longevity of the plant	
Owners of plant are prioritizing profit over safety and environment	5
Concern that decision making process will not take balanced view and properly consider environmental benefits	
Lack of life cycle perspective on the environmental effects	2
Safety of VY workers will be properly be addressed	
VY avoidance of independent review suggests VY has something to hide	14
Certification does not look at safety issues	1
License is based on economic considerations, not safety/technical issues	11
May cause my death or the death of someone I love	1
NRC is not taking note of the plant that is falling apart	19
Concerns about the culture of safety at VY	
VY not disclosing potential safety hazards to the public	13
No accountability because foreign owned organization	
No financial liability	
Surrounding state needs to be involved in process	2
Misinformation is leading people to mistaken conclusions	15
Increase in cancer rate in Windham county (used to be lowest in state)	14
Economic impact on state and nation if there is a catastrophic accident	16
Plant integrity	53
Has current owner contributed to Decom fund	
Continuing to use something that is poisoning us	6
Plant is too old and a potential accident	6
Have independent safety audit/assessment	10
Concern storage casks are vulnerable to terrorist attack	1
Consequences of being unfairly shut down on state's power source	
Long term effect of waste storage	36
Cost concern to Vermonters and businesses	2
Concern creation of a new company will protect the shareholders only	4
Will we get the same energy benefit with a new company?	
Is safety record of plant in good standing vs. other plants?	1
Is there a plan for a nuclear emergency and that public be involved in plan	6
Plant lifespan –good to 2032 and beyond	1
Concern that disproportionate number of people involved public process have a financial stake in the plant	1
Possible health concerns for radiation in the air that we don't see	1
Gov't and VY broke promise on waste removal	
Recycle spent rods – not enough research and money spent on that	
Leak today at VY, and ongoing issue of same	2
Research of use of extra heat created	
Long term effects on wildlife and surrounding ecosystems	2
Concern that issue will become politicized	

Concerns that we will work with spin and artificial data	
Concerned about creation, inspection and enforcement of Greenfield status	1
Concerned about number of lobbyists employed by VY	3
Concerned about the lies that VY is putting out in their commercials	26
How many lobbyists employed by VPIRG and CLF	5
Concerned about youth outreach that VY does in schools	3
Concerned about potential safety issues caused by substance abuse by VY employees	
Potential employee sabotage of plant	1
Transition plan for VY employees of plant is not relicensed	
Governor and administration are not listening to Windham county voters	
Quality of ISA	1
Not in a position to capitalize on new technology at VY	
Higher electric rates will be caused by VY closure & will make it difficult to retain and recruit businesses	19
Continuation of VY will retard Vermont produced power initiatives	
People don't understand the long term dangers of the waste	3
Exposure of stored waste to 100 year flood	3
Will there be new jobs created or eliminated if VY is relicensed	
Are there other plants of the same age?	
Is VY too old to operate?	
Concern plant will be shut down if still safe	4
Ongoing safety and reliability at plant	3
Connection with the nuclear industry and military industrial complex: plutonium and bombs	18
Relicensing will delay renewable energy development / jobs	30
ISA will not be objective	
ISA will not be completed by January of 2009	
Other Yankee plants closed prematurely – why is VY seeking an extension – is there something different about other plants vs. VY	1
What did Maine and Massachusetts and CT do to replace energy lost by closing of Yankee in those states?	
Concerned about focus of profit over safety	1
Long term maintenance of plant	1
Will spin off of VY into an LLC place an unfair financial burden on Vermonters?	
Vermonters will quit wrestling with tough issues before completing a meaningful dialogue	
Concerned about the placement of VY in a potentially depressed economic area	
The government is not taking responsibility for the high level waste	3
We are not creating new power sources because we are relying on VY	5
VT Legislature is getting ahead of the public process	15
High cost of operation and decommissioning	
Entergy is distancing itself from the plant	
Objectivity of the NRC	14
Objectivity of Public Service Board	2

2. WHAT OPPORTUNITIES OR BENEFITS DOES VERMONT YANKEE PRESENT?

Closure would reduce need to reprocess	
Closure would reduce need for uranium mining	
Hundreds of Vermonters could get jobs in warmer climates	
Closure would return CT river to its natural temperature	
Closure would provide more incentive for Vermont to site wind farms	
More incentives for efficiency	
Closure would provide more incentive for efficiency	
Closure would lower federal tax subsidization	
Maintain economic advantage	
Maintain lower electric prices	
Leverage any nuclear technology that develops	2
Competitive rates – ability to attract and retain businesses	16
Local clean energy	16
Potential for cogeneration	
Utility rates better than open market	6
Zero carbon footprint	
Good paying jobs at plant	
Tax revenue for the state	
Potential future use of radioactive waste	
Lower rates=competitive energy	17
Not dependent on oil energy from other countries	19
Closure means no more nuclear waste generated	
Closure means no more responsibility for waste disposal	
Closure=lower terrorist risk	
Closure would be a catalyst to develop alternative energy sources	
Closure would mean better health, lower cancer rates	
Closure would lower insurance rates	
Low carbon producer	9
Maintains emergency preparedness planning support and financing	1
Low cost power in Vermont	
Closure would mean less plutonium for weapons production	
Closure would provide peace of mind for everyone	1
Allows time to develop alternative energy sources	15
Plant is a known commodity	
Continuous, reliable source of energy	13
Closure would allow VT to lead the country in alternative power	29
Closure would reduce mining and promote better worker health	
Closure would reduce anxieties	
Closure would allow us to discuss conservation efforts	
Closure would provide a benefit to the local economy for decommissioning	
Closure would provide the opportunity to develop 600MW of renewables	
Continuation would provide economic benefit to state	2
Increased health care jobs	
Safer environment for dry cask storage	
Closure would create a catalyst for renewables	2
Closure would improve water quality of the CT river	
Closure would reduce soil contamination	
Continued operation+ reliable, base load power	12
Contract rate and stability	11
Opportunity for low cost	
Jobs at plant	1

Job creation and retention throughout Vermont – low power cost	8
Benefits for stockholders	
Maintain competitive pricing with Hydro Quebec	9
Closure would result in more new renewable jobs	16
Closure=reduced radioactive exposure	
Closure=reduced fear	
Closure would slow down development of nuclear power plants	
Closure would mean 22 fewer dry casks	2
Closure would reduce daily radiological emissions	
Closure would show proof of grass roots democratic process	2
Closure would reduce CO2 production from uranium mining	
Closure would end contract with military-industrial complex	3
Continued operation would mean lower electric rates	39
Provide jobs and support income	3
Allows CVPS to have base load power source	2
Low green house gasses source	12
Do not have to seek out alternatives	
Continued taxes	8
Closure would avoid the cost of nuclear waste and storage	
Closure could result in lower rates	
Closure could force us to examine new types of alternatives	2
Closure would create alternatives, thus creating more jobs and opportunity for research	
Closure would reduce level of fear	
Closure would reduce demand for homeland security	

3. WHAT ALTERNATIVES ARE THERE TO CONTINUED OPERATION OF VERMONT YANKEE?

Comprehensive energy and efficiency plan	
Increase interstate transmission capacity	
Government subsidized cogeneration	2
Feed in tariff policy	4
Human power	
New Vermont gas line production	
Coal Gasification	4
Smart metering	
Integrated policy	
Government support for green energy sources	
Money for innovation	10
Investment in alternatives	
..Not good	
Future technology	
Geothermal power	
Health mindset	
Methane / biofuels	
Compost power	
Non-electric	16
Plug in Hybrids	
Lifestyle changes (Efficiency, conservation)	46
Education	9
Open market purchases	
Community conservation	2
Education	1
Decentralize the electric system	1
ISO New England	2
Solar – utility assisted subsidy	13
Local small scale hydro	6
Conservation	10
Wind – 40% use	11
Efficiency	12
Diversify sources	7
CFL's in the state house	
Incentives for behavioral change	14
Compromise	
Build new Nuclear Plant	7
Approve technology for heating and cooling	
Renewables	
Biomass	4
Battery storage	
Local control	3
Hydrogen	
Raise electric cost	7

4. WHAT ARE THE LIKELY IMPLICATIONS SHOULD VERMONT YANKEE CLOSE IN 2012?

Higher priced power	12
Higher CO2 emissions	7
Lower consumption due to price	
Greater safety	
Creation of new jobs in renewables and decommissioning	
Fewer jobs – general economic impact	7
Increase in Vermont jobs due to decommissioning	3
Less concentrated wealth in energy industry	
Reduced tax revenues to state	
More self sustaining households, more self generation	
Carbon cycle for nuclear fuel higher than alternatives	
1000's of jobs in efficiency	4
Safstor for 60 years	
Loss of hundreds of high paying jobs	6
Economic impact on Windham county	6
Transitional employment – renewables will take up slack	
The end of production of toxic deadly waste	19
Health care costs will go down	
People will feel safer	
Higher power rates	
Lower power rates	
Find alternatives	
Smaller amount of nuclear waste	
Loss of 800 plant jobs	2
Negative impact on businesses (IBM, Killington, etc..)	13
Lower environmental impact	
Loss of tax base	
Greater receptivity to wind projects	8
Move to alternatives	3
Lower reliability	
People will move to a better economic environment, resulting in lower power	
Creativity will be stimulated	
New jobs for renewable and alternative power	5
Increased CO2 emissions	
Cleaner energy will result	
Recognize that alternatives were more expensive after all!	
Renewables less expensive	1
Vermont will have a reputation as not business friendly	
Loss of reliability and base load source	4
Will impact cost of alternatives to nuclear	
Cancer rate in Vernon will decrease	2
Higher cost	11
Less tax revenue	3
Loss of jobs due to higher cost statewide	2
Vermont will have a worse reputation for business	12
Less chance of a Chernobyl type accident	
Employment opportunities through decommissioning process	
Increase of CO2 footprint	
Future generations may forgive us for leaving less mess	
Vermont will become a leader in innovation	
Loss of clean power and impact on future generations due to CO2 impact	3

Increased dependence on outside sources	2
Decreased carbon footprint	2
Solar will be stimulated	1
Lower health risk from radiation	
Middle class exodus	6
Peace of mind, health benefits, reduce cancer	5
Emphasis on energy efficiency	
Energy will not have money for decommissioning	
Reduction in terrorist threat	
Strain on wood and oil industry	
Reduces changes of developing out of state nuclear repository	1
No more evacuation drills	1
More cow power	6
Vermont will need to find another source of base load power	4
Increased energy costs that should have begun 10 years ago	
Loss of energy independence	5
Frees up subsidies that could be used for renewables	
Increase in rates	8
Worth more to live without danger	
22 less dry storage casks	
Forced development of renewables	
Dislocation of energy to plan for	
4 years is too short a timeframe to plan for replacement	
Increased cost of living	12
New technology to reduce radioactivity of fuel rods	
Decommissioning funds stop rising	
Increased energy price volatility	9
Decommissioning creates more jobs	1
Conservation can offset price increases	
Loss of jobs at plant and community	5
Could be a reallocation of jobs	
Cost of renewables will go down	
No more media coverage	1
Positive economic impact from closing	
Less waste produced	
Increase in CO2 emissions	
Reduction damage caused by nuclear fuel transportation to Vermont	
Negative stockholder impact	
Improvement in CT river water quality	
Rate will increase	12
Who will be buy power from	1
Decommissioning employment	1
No worries about plant accidents	
No longer terrorist target in Vermont	
Diversify portfolio for Vermont – renewables, DG, Conservation	
No more drills	
Negative economic impact	12

5. WHAT ELSE DO YOU NEED TO KNOW TO DECIDE IF WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO USE VERMONT YANKEE?

How is the water being release from VY affecting the surrounding environment	3
What is the impact to the local and state economy if VY shuts down	11
If we continue to use VY, will the persons who profit from it have a guilty conscience	
How many jobs does Decom for VY create	1
How long would it take to return VY to Greenfield status	
What impact would closure have on consumers	1
How much of the profit from VY invested in Vermont	1
Why is VY seeking to continue when others of comparable age have been closed	1
How long before the casks are removed if VY is closed	
How can we be sure the reactor vessel and key components are not embrittled based on actual tests, not just VY estimates	6
How many houses are being powered by VY	1
If VY is closed, what is the impact of greenhouse gas emissions of alternative energy sources and what would it be over a 20 year period	1
How many people would be displaced in the event of a catastrophic failure at VY	4
How much water is VY depend on to cool the reactor (daily, monthly, etc...) Is the water recycled – what happens to it	
Will NEWCO LLC exist a short 50 years from now	1
Does license extension have to be 20 years	
Will we still have competent employees to work at VY	
Is there any way to track where Vermont's Uranium comes from, its mining levels, manner of extraction and plan for new sources if a shortage happens?	1
What is the impact on state and local economies if VY continues operation	2
What effect does labor relations have on VY's ability to continue to operate	
What state subsidies are there to VY for a proposed 20-year deal?	4
How can we better educate the public about the risks associated with the continued operation of VY	5
What are the long term health risks associated with long term cask storage and Decom of VY	3
If a license is granted, can Entergy be required to retrofit VY with the latest safety technologies	13
What is involved in returning VY to Greenfield status and have other sites done it?	1
Have other sites been required to Greenfield status and why?	
How will Homeland Security affect the public's ability to know about operations and incidents at VY	
Why is the State nuclear engineer not a nuclear engineer?	3
What evidence is there about the plant's impact on health, environment in the area, within a 20-mile radius?	
What are the immediate and long-term impacts on rates if we decommission	9
What size storage facility would we need to store the carbon generated by an alternative source, for a comparable amount of power?	
Impact on rates if we continue?	1
Can rates be renegotiated?	1
Was an ISA done – when will it be?	31
Who would conduct the ISA and what will be studied?	4

What is the likely replacement source of energy and what are the anticipated impacts?	2
How do we educate the public about the true CO2 footprint of using VY (Uranium enrichment, transportation, etc...)	1
What would the policy of the Governor and Legislature be moving forward to replace VY	4
Would the Governor's and Legislature's policy reflect the wishes of Vermonters	4
If we grant license extension, can the state require Entergy to invest portions of the profits in alternative energy sources	3
Will VY be able to move to new technologies if they are relicensed?	
What is Entergy's profit and how much goes into the Decom fund	
Are the safety assessors truly independent?	18
How many Entergy employees are being paid to attend meetings	3
Generally, how many people in the process are paid by Entergy to participate?	18
Will the PSB/PSD present viable, economic and comparable renewable resources to the legislature prior to the vote?	2
In the past 10 years, how much has VPIRG spent on efforts to close VY?	2
How much has VY Spent?	
Have other comparable facilities been granted extension, and how has it worked out?	3
Will VY pay for a health study to be done to see if cancer rates have increased?	14
Will safety issues rise as the plant ages?	
What is the history of off lines has VY had since 1972?	1
Will Decom costs rise as the plant ages?	1
When will we know if the federal government is coming to get the waste?	1
What is the half-life of the current containers?	
Is VY being properly maintained given its age? Can repairs and conditions of the plant be transparent?	
If we defer on making a tough decision in 2012, will it be worse in 2032?	1
What happens if Vermonters think safety is different than what the NRC considers safety to be?	1
If VY continues to operate, will waste continue to be stored on site? If not, where?	
Do surrounding states get a say in this?	3
Could we build another plant?	2
What would be the cost of a new plant?	2
How much would the renewables everyone is talking about cost?	15
Can we treat the VY license like a car inspection – every 2 to 5 years must have a safety inspection to pass?	8
At what point would Entergy decide that it is not economical to continue to operate VY	
If a license is granted, is Entergy required to operate it for a full 20-year period?	
Is there a reliable, viable and affordable alternative to VY	10
If we grant a license, can the "uprate" be regulated (or o back to a safe level?)	
Are there projections of what the impact on users rates would be if we Decom VY?	2
Is Entergy required to pay for all waste and clean up?	
Why do these meetings seem biased in favor of VY?	11