

BEYOND NUCLEAR * CITIZENS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION

CITIZENS ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE OF SOUTHWEST ONTARIO

DON'T WASTE MICHIGAN * SIERRA CLUB MICHIGAN CHAPTER

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Legal Challenges Mount For Proposed Fermi 3 Reactor

Monroe, MI--Last night's filing deadline to comment on the proposed Fermi 3 Reactor did not pass without a flurry of complex legal challenges being launched. Several dozen Interventions were filed as both comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and more formalized legal contentions were filed with the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB). The DEIS comments fall under the jurisdiction of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the more legal contentions filed with the ASLB fall under the jurisdiction of the Atomic Energy Act.*

The legal contentions ran the gamut including challenges on the actual need for a Fermi 3 reactor and the economics; wetlands decimation; water intakes at risk; health impacts; First Nation treaty rights; fisheries in jeopardy; thermal pollution of Lake Erie; dangerous fuel enrichment; and new transmission line impacts, including on habitat for endangered and threatened species. The comments addressed areas that were clearly overlooked and omitted from the Environmental Review process, and areas which were poorly evaluated. Once again these comments were robust and comprehensive. Please find attached [as links below] just a small sample of the comments made. The legal contentions before the ASLB are attached as 'Intrvnrs Comment letter Complete'. The legal intervenors will be posting several dozen comments to the Beyond Nuclear webpage in the next few days [as links below].

*The Atomic Energy Act is the law which the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is governed by. The ASLB acts as the Administrative Law Judges for all things nuclear, including proceedings with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.