

**News from Beyond Nuclear  
For Immediate Release, February 14, 2012**

Contact: Kevin Kamps, Beyond Nuclear's Radioactive Waste Specialist, (240) 462-3216

**Watchdog Group Calls for Palisades to be “shut down before it melts down”**

*Beyond Nuclear media statement by Kevin Kamps,  
in response to NRC downgrade of atomic reactor's safety status*

Takoma Park, MD--“While we welcome the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's long overdue acknowledgement that safety risks are unacceptable at Palisades, and the agency's plans for enhanced inspections, we know all too well that not only the reactor's owner, Entergy Nuclear, but even the regulatory agency itself, needs to be watched at every turn, to keep them honest. The grassroots environmental movement of the Great Lakes will do all it can to shine a spotlight on the grave risks at Palisades. Too much is at stake: Lake Michigan, headwaters of the drinking water supply for 40 million people downstream.”

[NRC's media release, “NRC CITES PALISADES FOR THREE VIOLATIONS; PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULED” can be viewed online at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2012/12-006.iii.pdf>.]

“Entergy is infamous for buying reactors on the cheap, and then running them into the ground. Entergy long defers, or outright cancels, needed maintenance and safety-significant repairs and even vital ‘organ transplants’ at its reactors like Palisades. At the same time, Entergy's CEO, J. Wayne Leonard, makes tens of millions per year.”

“Given its risky behavior and well-deserved bad reputation, Entergy's aged reactors are some of the most controversial in the country -- Indian Point near New York City, Vermont Yankee, and Pilgrim near Boston. Palisades has gone for many years without overdue replacements of its degraded reactor vessel head and steam generators, as well as needed upgrades to fire protections.”

“A call has come from the grassroots environmental movement in Vermont -- which is leading the fight to shut down Vermont Yankee, after Entergy lied under oath to Vermont state agencies about pipes leaking radioactivity into the environment -- for a national coalition to form, an ‘Entergy Watch.’ We look forward to working with this national coalition to shut down Entergy's risky reactors, such as at Palisades and Vermont Yankee.”

“Given Palisades' badly embrittled reactor pressure vessel, likely the worst in the country, we must shut it down for good, before it melts down.”

--

Kevin Kamps  
Radioactive Waste Watchdog  
Beyond Nuclear  
6930 Carroll Avenue, Suite 400  
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912  
Office: (301) 270-2209 ext. 1  
Cell: (240) 462-3216  
Fax: (301) 270-4000  
kevin@beyondnuclear.org  
www.beyondnuclear.org

Beyond Nuclear aims to educate and activate the public about the connections between nuclear power and nuclear weapons and the need to abandon both to safeguard our future. Beyond Nuclear advocates for an energy future that is sustainable, benign and democratic.