

ATTACHMENT A-1

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BRINGING THE SHEARON HARRIS NUCLEAR
PLANT INTO COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS
Resolution No. 38/2006-07**

WHEREAS, NC WARN, the Union of Concerned Scientists, the Nuclear Information and Research Service, NC Fair Share, and Students United for a Responsible Global Environment (SURGE) have filed a legal action with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to bring the Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant into compliance with Federal Fire Safety Regulations, and

WHEREAS, the plant has operated in violation of those regulations for at least the past 14 years and as such has substantially increased the risk to the public, and

WHEREAS, the plant owner says it will apply for permission to take up to nine more years to study its fire safety violations instead of fixing them, and

WHEREAS, approximately 50 percent of the risks of catastrophic nuclear plant failure are associated with fire-related accidents, as calculated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and

WHEREAS, Orange County staff has recently been presented information to the Assembly of Governments as to ongoing problems with fire safety and practices at the Shearon Harris nuclear power plant.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Carrboro Board of Aldermen support these local organizations' call for emergency enforcement action by the NRC to:

- 1) Immediately suspend Shearon Harris's license until all fire safety violations are corrected, or;
- 2) Fine Harris \$130,000 for each violation each day it operates until compliance with current law is verified by NRC – without relying on regulatory bypasses such as “interim” fire watches and operator actions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Carrboro Board of Aldermen support the requests that:

- 1) Deliberations on this matter are conducted in open and public proceedings that include hearings in the vicinity of the Shearon Harris plant, and that
- 2) Although the bringers of the legal action are willing to enter into negotiations allowing the plant to remain operating, any continued operation must be based on the establishment of a firm timetable – not exceeding 12 months – for completing the necessary repairs to bring the plant into full compliance with current, applicable fire safety regulations.

Revised: 10/2/06

ATTACHMENT A-2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Carrboro Board of Aldermen join in the call for the NRC to refuse to consider any “early relicensing” of the plant for an additional 20 years – for which an application will be submitted by year end – unless the plant has been brought into full compliance with fire regulations.

Dear Orange County Elected Officials,

As you know, the Orange County Assembly of Governments will meet tonight, September 21, and will review questions associated with the Shearon Harris Nuclear Plant. The meeting is at the Southern Human Services Center on Homestead road at 7:30. Shearon Harris is the second item on the agenda.

Yesterday NC WARN, The Union of Concerned Scientists, The Nuclear Information and Research Service, NC Fair Share, and SURGE (Students United for a Responsible Global Environment) filed a legal action with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission demanding emergency enforcement action by the NRC to bring the Shearon Harris plant into compliance with federal fire safety regulations. The NRC has been out of compliance for at least 14 years and now relies on unapproved and very unsafe roving fire patrols and “operator manual actions” to supposedly compensate for not having effective fire barriers between primary and backup electrical control cables.

The full report, including the demands to the NRC, can be downloaded from <http://www.ncwarn.org/>. We will have copies at the meeting.

In coming weeks and months, the Orange county commission, and town councils will be asked to adopt the resolution, copied below, on the fire issue. We also strongly urge you to organize public forums that invite Progress Energy together with its critics, including NC WARN, to address the fire and other safety issues associated with the plant, as well as the proposed early relicensing of the plant for 20 more years after the present license expires in 2026 and the proposed addition of up to two additional reactors at the Harris site.

Please call me if you have any questions or if I can get you additional materials.

Pete MacDowell
Program Director
NC WARN
259-3140 (cell phone)

From: Clayton, Marty [mailto:marty.clayton@pgnmail.com]
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2006 4:14 PM
To: Sarah Williamson
Subject: Progress Energy Update - Harris Plant

To: Sarah C. Williamson From: Marty Clayton

:

Carrboro, Town of Progress Energy

September 22, 2006

The Harris Plant has been in the news this week and we want to make sure you have the facts.

Harris Plant outage

The Harris Plant tripped offline at approximately 10 a.m. Tuesday morning when a relay device inside the plant's generator failed. Nuclear plants are designed to automatically shut down when components fail in order to protect plant equipment and to ensure the health and safety of the public. Shutdowns are the result of properly functioning safety systems.

The cause of the outage was an electrical problem, similar to tripping the breaker in your home, and was not related to the reactor or the nuclear side of the plant. After conducting extensive precautionary testing on the relay and other nearby components to ensure the relay was the sole cause of the outage, the device was successfully replaced Thursday afternoon.

The plant began startup procedures Thursday evening, and began making and sending power to our customers again early this morning.

Petition to suspend the Harris Plant's license

NC WARN and others filed a 2.206 petition on Wednesday, which is a mechanism the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) established to allow the public to be involved and engaged in its oversight process. We expect the NRC will review the petition to determine its merit.

Progress Energy and the Harris Plant will work with the NRC in the appropriate manner to address this petition.

Fire safety at the Harris Plant

Allegations of inadequate fire safety at the Harris Plant are simply not true.

There are multiple layers of fire protection barriers in place at Harris. Fire-sensitive cables are wrapped in fire retardant material, surrounded by automatic detection devices and sprinkler systems, and are located in rooms separated by thick concrete to prevent the spread of any fire. Additionally, we employ human fire protection, with an on-site fire brigade and teams of individuals (six to eight per shift) who work around the clock, walking the plant in search of fires or fire hazards.

Over the last several years, the NRC's regulations for fire protection have changed – the Harris Plant has been responsive to the NRC's requests every step of the way and is making modifications to meet new NRC requirements in the time allowed by the NRC. With compensatory measures, the NRC considers the Harris Plant to be within guidelines for safe operation.

It is our responsibility to ensure the health and safety of the public and we take that responsibility seriously, as do the nearly 450 highly qualified and experienced plant employees. They work here and raise their families in this community. The last thing our employees would accept is an operating condition that presents a danger to themselves or the public.

If you have additional questions about these or other issues, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,
Marty

Marty Clayton
Manager - Community Relations
Progress Energy
919-878-5300

<http://www.progress-energy.com>