

Don't bring more reactors to Palisades

Editor,

Holtec CEO Krishna Singh has floated the trial balloon of building one or more so-called small modular nuclear reactors at Palisades in Covert Township, according to an article by Ben Weiss dated April 8, in Exchange-Monitor, and reported by The Herald-Palladium ("Small modular reactors a possibility for Palisades site," May 28-29).

We had long feared this, since Holtec had already pulled this bait and switch at Oyster Creek, New Jersey.

Here is the relevant passage from the end of the Exchange-Monitor article:

Meanwhile, Holtec would also consider similar SMR projects at some of its other decommissioning sites such as the Palisades plant in Michigan, Singh said Tuesday.

However, he said the company would not propose advanced reactors for some decommissioning sites – particularly New York's Indian Point and Massachusetts's Pilgrim plant – because of local resistance. "They would burn us in effigy if we even said that, never mind build one," Singh said.

So I suppose if Palisades is fair game, so too then is Big Rock Point, also on the Lake Michigan shore, near Charlevoix in northern Michigan? Holtec has also applied to take it over from Entergy.

My response? Over my dead body.

If Krishna Singh thinks the Lake Michigan shore in western Michigan is fair game for targeting his SMRs, he has revealed his ignorance of the proud and effective history of the anti-nuclear movement in Michigan dating back 65 years, when Leo Goodman of the UAW sued the Atomic Energy Commission to prevent the construction of the infamous "We Almost Lost Detroit" Fermi 1 reactor.

It may have taken us more than 50 years, but Palisades itself has shut down for good, after all. Some local resisters have fought Palisades from pre-con-

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struction right up to the present. This includes friends of mine in Kalamazoo, who gathered petition signatures against Palisades before it was built. This also includes Maynard Kaufman of Bangor, founder of the Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance, who passed on last summer. In fact, he and his recently departed wife, Barb Geisler, as members and supporters provided Beyond Nuclear with legal standing in our intervention against Holtec's takeover of Palisades and Big Rock Point, in February 2021.

Krishna Singh suggested a burning in effigy. Actually, our forte has been street theater featuring the tarring and feathering of Springfield Nuclear Power Plant owner Mr. Burns from The Simpsons, but we can be flexible. Don't even think about it, Holtec.

Kevin Kamps

Mount Rainier, Md.

(formerly of Kalamazoo)

Radioactive Waste Specialist at

Beyond Nuclear

Crystal Springs Cemetery poorly maintained

Editor,

On Memorial Day I visited Crystal Springs Cemetery, which was truly heartbreaking. The lawn was not mowed, weeds growing trying to cover the head stones. Who is on the Cemetery Board, who is in charge of management? Please honor our deceased.

Allene Smith

Benton Harbor