

OHIO GREEN PARTY NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Co-chair Philena I. Farley

Editors & Contributors: Philena I. Farley, Daryl Davis, Logan Martinez, Anita Rios



Join #UAW Local 674 on the picket line in West Chester, OH

Support the UAW on Strike in Ohio!

STELLANTIS CLEVELAND (LOCAL 573, REGION 2B)

9777 Mopar Dr, Streetsboro, OH 44241

STELLANTIS TOLEDO ASSEMBLY COMPLEX (LOCAL 12, REGION 2B)

4400 Chrysler Drive, Toledo, OH 43608

GM CINCINNATI PARTS DIST (LOCAL 674, REGION 2B)

8752 Jacquemin Dr, West Chester, OH 45069

Show your support, take pizza, water, snacks and solidarity,
to the striking workers.

The Green Party of Ohio urges a “Yes vote on Issue 2.

By Philena I. Farley



Vote YES on November 7th

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine opposes Issue 2, the initiative to legalize marijuana in Ohio. He has said that he has seen the negative effects of marijuana legalization in other states and fears that it would lead to increased use by underage kids and small children. The Ohio Green Party believes that Governor DeWine's fears are unfounded. There is no evidence that marijuana legalization leads to increased use by underage kids or small children. In fact, studies have shown that marijuana legalization can actually lead to a decrease in underage use.

In addition, Governor DeWine's opposition to Issue 2 is based on a false dichotomy. He believes that the only two options are to maintain the current failed prohibition policy or to fully legalize marijuana for recreational use. However, there is a third option: to regulate and tax marijuana. Issue 2 would create a fair and regulated marijuana market in Ohio. It would also ensure that tax revenue from marijuana sales is used to support social equity programs and expunge the criminal records of people convicted of nonviolent marijuana offenses. The Ohio Green Party believes that regulating and taxing marijuana is the best way to protect public safety, generate tax revenue, and create jobs. We urge all Ohioans to vote yes on Issue 2 to legalize marijuana and create a more just and equitable society.

Here are some specific points that counter Governor DeWine's arguments:

- Increased use by underage kids:
 - Studies have shown that marijuana legalization does not lead to increased use by underage kids. In fact, a study by the National Institute on Drug Abuse found that marijuana use among teenagers has declined in states that have legalized marijuana for recreational use.
- Consumption by small children:
 - It is important to keep marijuana out of the reach of children.
 - However, this is already a problem under the current prohibition policy.
 - Children are more likely to be exposed to marijuana in homes where it is being used illegally. Legalization and regulation would allow for stricter controls on the sale and distribution of marijuana, which would help to keep it out of the hands of children.
- Negative effects in other states:
 - It is true that there have been some challenges associated with marijuana legalization in other states. However, these challenges have been relatively minor and have been outweighed by the benefits of legalization. For example, Colorado has generated billions of dollars in tax revenue from marijuana sales, which has been used to fund schools, parks, and other public services. The Ohio Green Party believes that the benefits of legalizing and regulating marijuana far outweigh the risks.

We urge all Ohioans to vote yes on Issue 2 to create a more just and equitable society.



The Green Party of Ohio urges Ohioans to “Vote Yes” on issue 1.

By Anita Rios, Toledo

The Dobbs decision overturned Roe V Wade and removed protections for people seeking abortions, protections for people providing others with assistance in seeking abortions, and protections for abortion providers. We have now seen how punitive and inflexible laws blocking access to reproductive health care have victimized desperate women and the family members and clinicians trying to help them.

In Nebraska a teenager spent three months in jail and must also serve two years of probation for having a medical abortion and disposing of the fetal remains. Her mother will spend two years in prison for assisting her.

Here in Ohio a 10 year old girl, a victim of rape, had to travel to Indiana to receive an abortion because Ohio law has no exception for rape, even for a child. And if this was not bad enough, the doctor who performed the abortion was reprimanded and fined \$3000 for bringing to light the sad story.

The people passing the draconian abortion laws don't want the public to be aware of the unjust situations that such laws create. The only way to put an end to this persecution is to pass Issue 1.

Issue 1 is necessary to allow people to make reproductive choices for themselves, and to assure that clinicians are free to provide the full range of reproductive services and advice without risking prosecution or threats to their careers. The clueless and insensitive Ohio legislature, in their gerrymandered safe seats, have turned a blind eye to the wishes of the majority of Ohioans who support reproductive rights.

A yes vote on issue 1 is the only way to assure that Ohioans are free to make their own reproductive health care choices.



The Green Party of Ohio calls for a cease fire in the Middle East.

By Logan Martinez, Dayton

The Green Party of Ohio condemns the targeted attacks on civilians in the newest wave of violence in Gaza and Israel. We call for an immediate ceasefire, an immediate end to the invasion and occupation of Gaza.

Israel cutting off electricity and the delivery of food, water, and fuel to the Gaza Strip is in violation of international humanitarian law prohibiting sieges on civilian populations. The Green Party of Ohio calls on Ohioans to support a ceasefire and to join the Peace Movement.



The Relicensing of the Perry Nuclear power plant will put communities at risk!

By Daryl Davis, Cleveland

The Perry Nuclear Power Plant, in Perry Ohio, about 35 miles from Cleveland, has applied for a license extension to operate from 40 to 60 years. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will conduct a meeting on Thursday, October 19, 2023 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM to gather public views and comments necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement for the reactor's potential license renewal.

You can weigh in

at: <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML23279A077>

The Ohio Nuclear-Free Network, (www.onfn.org), NIRS (the Nuclear Information and Resource Service), and Beyond Nuclear, which advocate for a sustainable non-nuclear energy future, oppose the license extension and hope you will let the NRC know of our opposition as well.

Concerns/Issues regarding the Perry license renewal:
SEISMIC

- The Perry reactor was built on a 45' high Lake Erie bluff in a seismically active area in Lake County, which is the smallest in Ohio measuring approximately 25 miles long and 10 miles wide.
- On January 31, 1986, (just prior to plant operation) there was a magnitude 5 earthquake, the epicenter of which was 10 miles south of the Perry plant. The quake was felt in 10 states and Canada and produced at least 12 aftershocks over about a month long period. The NRC acknowledges that the quake was tectonic (naturally occurring), and that certain high frequency data demonstrated that the reactor's seismic magnitude design basis of 5.3 was exceeded, although overall the earthquake was determined to be 5.0 magnitude on the Modified Mercalli scale.
- There have been numerous subsequent earthquakes within a 10 mile radius of the plant, three as recently as August 28, 2023, including several with a magnitude of 4.0.
- The plant was built on a known fault in Lake Erie traversing the intake and discharge water tunnels as well as a number of faults onsite. There is a fault line (The Akron Magnetic Boundary) which runs from Lake Erie in the plant area south to Akron Ohio and other faults south of the plant.
- In 1975 during excavation, a chasm 30' wide and 20' deep running about two-thirds of the building site was discovered and filled with concrete.

EROSION

- The Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) and previous FSARs acknowledge that few studies have been done of lake shoreline erosion in the area of the plant, but erosion is an obvious, serious ongoing problem impacting eastern Lake County. Erosion of the "toe" (lake-level) of the bluff that Perry sits on is postulated to be as much as 3-4' annually..
- From the early days of the plant's construction, significant erosion has been observed. In 1983, a rock protected sheet pile breakwall was erected (to protect a) section of the lake shoreline approximately 2,200 feet long. Erosion is a natural feature of the Great Lakes and with the erratic nature of climate change it's reasonable to demand that the NRC place a moratorium on nuclear power plants on the lake Erie shoreline, or in close proximity to the shoreline.

RADIOACTIVE LEAKS

- Because tritium is radioactive hydrogen, if it becomes part of Lake Erie drinking water molecules, it cannot be removed.

- The Perry plant has had nearly annual tritium leaks that have exceeded the "Industry Groundwater Protection Initiative Final Guidance" threshold of 20,000 pico-Curies/liter (pCi/L). The most recent known incident was June 23, 2023 when "The tritium activity level was determined to be 40,300 pCi/L, and subsequent tests have confirmed continued elevated tritium levels."
- The Perry site has a very high groundwater table. During excavation, crews struck groundwater at 3' to 5' below the surface.

Questions for the NRC:

Can you provide links to reports of tritium leaks in the past 10 years?

What precautions can/are being taken to prevent elevated tritium levels in groundwater?

What time period elapses before tritium leaks are discovered?

Was the source of the 6/23/23 leak identified and remediated?

FLOODING

- Lake County has experienced flooding due, for example, to river ice jams in the winter and due to summer storms like the one that occurred on July 26, 2006 when 11 inches of rain fell in a 48 hour period causing record 500 year and in eastern Lake County 1000 year flooding.

Question for the NRC:

Have the onsite drain systems always been sufficient to prevent the plant site from flooding?

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Question for the NRC:

If the license extension is granted and the Perry plant can operate for 60 years, how can the NRC justify granting a November 16, 2021 license amendment to reduce emergency planning by eliminating shift positions, increasing response time, eliminating emergency planning information contained in implementing procedures and instructions etc.?

AGING, DETERIORATING REACTOR PARTS, COMPONENTS, SYSTEMS etc.

- Reactor metal and concrete parts, sealants, coatings, other components, and structures are subject to extreme mechanical, thermal, radiation, chemical, and fatigue stressors which weaken, deteriorate, and degrade them. Some components and structures like buried pipes and cables or building foundations are inaccessible and can't be inspected due to their location. Others in the reactor core or containment, used fuel storage etc. aren't inspectable due to high levels of radiation.
- The NRC relies to the extent possible on visual monitoring and inspections, robots, thermography, x-ray etc. to analyze the integrity of some reactor structures and components. The NRC also relies heavily on laboratory analyses such as accelerated aging, computer modeling, simulations, and so-called "Generic Aging Lessons Learned" which are not as reliable as "autopsies" - analyses performed on real-world parts and components "harvested" through replacement or at decommissioning.
- Very few parts, components, structures taken from operating or decommissioned reactors have been harvested or analyzed (none world-wide from GE Mark III BWRs like Perry) to determine reasons for failure or detrimental effects of aging. In some instances, reactor operators have refused to collect these parts etc.
- In 2017, The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, under NRC contract, published a report describing many knowledge "gaps" in the NRC's license renewal review process and recommended the licensing renewal review process "require...strategic "harvesting" of real-world safety-critical aged components from decommissioned and operating reactors to provide reasonable assurance of safe, reliable operation during the license extension period. In the 2019 NRC Rev. 1 to the report, the agency eliminated all references to knowledge gaps as well as the recommended requirements to "harvest" and "autopsy" real world aged materials.

Question for the NRC:

Why hasn't the NRC required the harvesting and autopsying of parts and components, removed from operating and decommissioned plants, to obtain information on real world wear and tear?

WASTE, (The waste from nuclear power plants will remain radioactive for thousands of years)

From the NRC's backgrounder on nuclear waste:

High-level wastes are hazardous because they produce fatal radiation doses during short periods of direct exposure. For example, 10 years after removal from a reactor, the surface dose rate for a typical spent fuel assembly exceeds 10,000 rem/hour – far greater than the fatal whole-body dose for humans of about 500 rem received all at once. If isotopes from these high-level wastes get into groundwater or rivers, they may enter food chains. The dose produced through this indirect exposure would be much smaller than a direct-exposure dose, but a much larger population could be exposed.

- As of 2022, the Perry plant was onsite storing 1700 fuel assemblies. (spent but still radioactive)
- Its spent fuel pool can hold up to 4820 assemblies. The pool held 2945 assemblies, but the plant was undergoing a refueling outage so 288 additional assemblies were added to the pool. (the spent fuel must be stored in pools of water to keep it cool).

Ohio Green Party

◆ People ◆ Planet ◆ Principles





Our mailing address is:

Ohio Green Party 1747 Olentangy River Rd # 1074 Columbus, OH
43212-1453 USA

[Join the Green Party of Ohio](#)