



January 26, 2017

Dear Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel:

With the announcement of the proposed sale of Vermont Yankee from Entergy to NorthStar, the duties of the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel (NDCAP) have become more urgent as the proposed timeline for decommissioning and site restoration would be substantially accelerated, and the petitioners will be seeking approval of the sale from both the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Vermont Public Service Board (PSB). As part of their petition before the PSB, NorthStar will also be seeking approval of site restoration standards.

As a conduit for public information and education on matters related to the decommissioning of Vermont Yankee, and in its role of advising the Governor, the General Assembly, the agencies of the state, and the public on issues related to the decommissioning, the Panel will be expected to receive and process information related to the sale and site restoration standards. **I am writing to ask that the panel develop and submit a request to the Commissioner of Public Service to request funding to support the retention of experts to assist NDCAP with its own independent assessment of information presented. These expert services would be solicited through a Request for Qualifications developed by NDCAP. Areas of expertise would include nuclear power plant decommissioning, site restoration, cost estimation and finance.**

The goal of this request is not to create a parallel sale and site restoration review and approval process. The goal is to provide the panel with access to experts to evaluate and explain information provided by the petitioners and other parties in the aforementioned dockets on questions where the panel needs to develop its own understanding of the facts in its advisory role.

Per 18 V.S.A. § 1700, the duties of the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel include:

(2) To advise the Governor, the General Assembly, the agencies of the State, and the public on issues related to the decommissioning of the VYNPS, with a written report being provided annually to the Governor and to the energy committees of the General Assembly. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d)(expiration of reports) shall not apply to this report.

(3) To serve as a conduit for public information and education on and to encourage community involvement in matters related to the decommissioning of the VYNPS and to receive written reports and presentations on the decommissioning of the Station at its regular meetings.

(4) To periodically receive reports on the Decommissioning Trust Fund and other funds associated with decommissioning of or site restoration at the VYNPS, including fund balances, expenditures made, and reimbursements received.

(5) To receive reports regarding the decommissioning plans for the VYNPS, including any site assessments and post-shutdown decommissioning assessment reports; provide a forum for receiving public comment on these plans and reports; and to provide comment on these plans and reports as the Panel may consider appropriate to State agencies and the owner of the VYNPS and in the annual report described in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

The statute also states that the Commissioner of Public Service shall:

**(6) hire experts, contract for services, and provide for materials and other reasonable and necessary expenses of the Panel as the Commissioner may consider appropriate on request of the Panel from time to time. Funds for this purpose shall come from the monies collected under 30 V.S.A. § 22 for the purpose of maintaining the Department of Public Service and such other sources as may be or become available.**

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Campany', written in a cursive style.

Chris Campany  
Executive Director