

1 H.166

2 Introduced by Representatives Sabilia of Dover and Coffey of Guilford

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Public Service; energy; nuclear

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to make changes
7 to the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel.

8 An act relating to changes to the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens
9 Advisory Panel

10 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

11 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 1700 is amended to read:

12 § 1700. CREATION; MEMBERSHIP; OFFICERS; QUORUM

13 (a) There is created the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel
14 that shall consist of the following:

15 (1) The Secretary of Human Services, ex officio, or designee.

16 (2) The Secretary of Natural Resources, ex officio, or designee.

17 (3) The Commissioner of Public Service, ex officio, or designee.

18 (4) The Secretary of Commerce and Community Development, ex
19 officio, or designee.

1 (5) One member of the House Committee on Energy and Technology,
2 chosen by the Speaker of the House.

3 (6) One member of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and
4 Energy, chosen by the Committee on Committees.

5 (7) One representative of the Windham Regional Commission or
6 designee, selected by the Regional Commission.

7 (8) ~~One representative~~ Two representatives of the Town of Vernon or
8 ~~designee~~ designees, selected by the legislative body of that town.

9 (9) Six members of the public, two each selected by the Governor, the
10 Speaker of the House, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Under
11 this subdivision, each appointing authority initially shall appoint a member for
12 a three-year term and a member for a four-year term. Subsequent
13 appointments under this subdivision shall be for terms of four years.

14 (10) Two representatives of the owners of the Vermont Yankee ~~Nuclear~~
15 ~~Power Station (VYNPS or Station)~~ selected by the owner of the Station site.

16 (11) ~~A representative of the International Brotherhood of Electric~~
17 ~~Workers (IBEW) selected by the IBEW who shall be a present or former~~
18 ~~employee at the VYNPS.~~

19 (12) One optional member who will represent collectively the Towns of
20 Chesterfield, Hinsdale, Richmond, Swanzey, and Winchester, New Hampshire,

1 when selected by the Governor of New Hampshire at the invitation of the
2 Commissioner of Public Service.

3 ~~(13)~~(12) One optional member who will represent collectively the
4 Towns of Bernardston, Colrain, Gill, Greenfield, Leyden, Northfield, and
5 Warwick, Massachusetts, when selected by the Governor of Massachusetts at
6 the invitation of the Commissioner of Public Service.

7 (b) Ex officio members shall serve for the duration of their time in office or
8 until a successor has been appointed. Members of the General Assembly shall
9 be appointed for two years or until their successors are appointed, beginning on
10 or before January 15 in the first year of the biennium. Representatives
11 designated by ex officio members shall serve at the direction of the designating
12 authority.

13 * * *

14 (f) Members of the panel who are not ex officio members, employees of the
15 State of Vermont, representatives of the ~~VYNPS~~ owners of the Vermont
16 Yankee site, or members representing towns outside Vermont, and who are not
17 otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their attendance, shall be entitled to
18 \$50.00 per diem and their necessary and actual expenses. Funds for this
19 purpose shall come from the monies collected under 30 V.S.A. § 22 for the
20 purpose of maintaining the Department of Public Service. Legislative

1 members shall not be entitled to a per diem under this section for meetings
2 while the General Assembly is in session.

3 (g) The Commissioner of Public Service shall:

4 * * *

5 (6) hire experts, contract for services, and provide for materials and
6 other reasonable and necessary expenses of the Panel as the Commissioner
7 may consider appropriate on request of the Panel from time to time. Funds for
8 this purpose shall come from the ~~monies collected under 30 V.S.A. § 22 for the~~
9 ~~purpose of maintaining the Department of Public Service and such other~~
10 ~~sources as may be or become available.~~ owners of the Vermont Yankee site as
11 the Commissioner of Public Service may consider appropriate, not to exceed
12 \$35,000 annually. The obligation to support the Panel's activities shall cease
13 upon the submission of the application for Partial License Termination by the
14 owners of the Vermont Yankee site to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
15 Commission. On or before June 30 annually, the Commissioner of Public
16 Service shall render to the owners of the Vermont Yankee site a statement
17 detailing the amount of money expended or contracted for under this
18 subdivision (6), which shall be paid within 30 days by the owners of the
19 Vermont Yankee site into the special fund established pursuant to 30 V.S.A.
20 § 22 for the purpose of maintaining the Department of Public Service and
21 Public Utility Commission. The funds paid into the special fund by the owners

1 of the Vermont Yankee site shall be paid solely to the Department. Within
2 30 days of receiving the statement of funds due, the owners of the Vermont
3 Yankee site may petition the Public Utility Commission for a hearing to review
4 and determine the necessity and reasonableness of such expenses. Following
5 the review, the Public Utility Commission may amend or revise the cost
6 assessments as it deems appropriate.

7 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 1701 is amended to read:

8 § 1701. DUTIES

9 The Panel shall serve in an advisory capacity only and shall not have
10 authority to direct decommissioning of the ~~VYNPS~~ Vermont Yankee site. The
11 duties of the Panel shall be:

12 (1) To hold a minimum of ~~four~~ three public meetings each year for the
13 purpose of discussing issues relating to the decommissioning of ~~the VYNPS~~
14 Vermont Yankee. The Panel may hold additional meetings.

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

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

6 (4) To periodically receive reports, including those required by the
7 Public Utility Commission Docket No. 8880 Order, on the Decommissioning
8 Trust Fund and other funds associated with decommissioning of or site
9 restoration at ~~the VYNPS~~ Vermont Yankee, including fund balances,
10 expenditures made, and reimbursements received.

11 (5) To receive reports and presentations at regular meetings regarding
12 the decommissioning progress and plans for ~~the VYNPS~~ Vermont Yankee,
13 including any site assessments and post-shutdown decommissioning
14 assessment reports; provide a forum for receiving public comment on these
15 plans and reports; and ~~to~~ provide comment on these plans and reports as the
16 Panel may consider appropriate to State agencies and the owner of ~~the VYNPS~~
17 Vermont Yankee and in the annual report described in subdivision (2) of this
18 subsection.

19 Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 1702 is amended to read:

20 § 1702. ASSISTANCE

1 The Department of Public Service, the Agency of Human Services, and the
2 Agency of Natural Resources shall furnish administrative support to the Panel,
3 with assistance from the owners of the ~~VYNPS~~ Vermont Yankee site as the
4 Commissioner of Public Service may consider appropriate.

5 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.