

ACTION ALERT!

Vote expected on April 3 on HB875-SB2162 – IL Nuclear Moratorium Repeal Bill

Your immediate action needed!

Sen. Bond revives IL Nuclear Power Issues Task Force, SJR4

In a Legislative replay of 2008, Rep. JoAnn Osmond (R., 61st –Antioch) and Sen. James Clayborne (D., 57th – Collinsville) have re-introduced legislation to repeal the moratorium on building new nuclear reactors in Illinois. ***A vote is expected on Friday April 3.***

We urge you to contact your STATE legislators, and ask them to vote against this legislation.

To find your state legislators, go to this website:

<http://www.ilga.gov/>

Go to the Legislator Lookup link in the Additional Services section.

An updated critique and background materials about the moratorium repeal can be found on the NEIS website at:

<http://www.neis.org/Campaigns/Moratorium/index.shtml>

Some new twists for 2009:

- The legislation makes even less sense than when it was introduced in 2008. The original 1987 law was passed to guarantee that no new nuclear reactors would be built until the Federal Government has a place and technology in place to dispose of high-level radioactive wastes. This was to prevent Illinois from turning into a de facto nuclear dumpsite, possibly for the region. In February 2009 the Obama Administration took the funding away from the DOE's Yucca Mt. project – leaving the nation with NO long-term plan in place for dealing with these wastes. In other words – the very conditions that the Moratorium was designed to protect Illinois from ***are now WORSE than in 2008.***
- We have learned that this legislation is being pushed as “being supportive of jobs”; and that it has the backing of Labor. This is ironic, since constructing new nuclear plants in Illinois would sabotage the 2007 Renewable Energy Portfolio standard law requiring that Illinois electric utilities produce 25% of their electricity from RENEWABLE energy resources by 2025. Since renewable energy and energy efficiency are more job intensive than nuclear plants, any labor leaders or unions supporting this legislation ***would actually be arguing for fewer Illinois jobs!***

- Sen. Michael Bond (D. - 31st; Grayslake) has re-introduced his Senate resolution authorizing the formation of an Illinois Nuclear Power Issues Task Force. It can be found under SJR4. We will deal with this issue in a future Alert.

What we need you to do:

- 1.) **Contact your state legislators** and urge them to vote against these bills; use the url link above to find out who your legislator is, and how s/he can be reached.
- 2.) **Contact Gov. Patrick Quinn**, and urge him to veto this legislation should it pass. Gov. Quinn has publicly stated that new nuclear power is not the way to go. He will have a chance to walk the walk and weigh in meaningfully on this issue should the legislation pass. He can be reached at:

Springfield

Office of the Governor
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: 217-782-0244
TTY: 888-261-3336

Chicago

Office of the Governor
James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph, 16-100
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: 312-814-2121

He can also be reached by e-mail at:

<http://www.illinois.gov/gov/contactthegovernor.cfm>

- 3.) Send **letters to the editors** of your local papers, arguing against the repeal of the nuclear construction moratorium.
- 4.) Get organizations you belong to to **sign and return the attached [Organization Position Statement](#)** (also available on our Moratorium web page listed above), supporting BOTH the nuclear construction moratorium AND the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard. ***Please return this to NEIS ASAP to have the maximum effect in Springfield; and to be used at a possible Press Conference!***

Thanks in advance for all you do!

--Dave Kraft, Director--