

From: [REDACTED]
To: erda.sm.DraftBlueprint
Subject: Comment on Draft Blueprint for Consideration of Advanced Nuclear Technologies
Date: Friday, November 8, 2024 10:42:32 AM

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Dear NYSERDA NY NYSERDA NY,

Dear NYSERDA President and CEO Harris,

I write to you in strong opposition to NYSERDA's promotion of new, unproven, untested, and highly radioactive and expensive nuclear energy. The Draft Blueprint for Consideration of so-called "Advanced" Nuclear Technologies is poorly informed and inappropriately promotes construction of nuclear power plants in New York. It shows little to no serious consideration of this technology's serious health, environmental, and economic problems.

The production of nuclear energy is an environmental injustice. The report fails to recognize the myriad, deadly harms faced by Indigenous peoples, as well as other environmental justice communities along the entire fuel chain of nuclear energy: those who live close to existing reactors, uranium mines and enrichment sites, and nuclear waste dumps.

Nuclear reactors create grave and deadly health hazards. A new generation of nuclear reactors would threaten the health of people living near such facilities. Radioactive and toxic exposures cause cancers, birth defects, reproductive system diseases, and weakened immune systems.

Pursuing nuclear energy will undermine renewable energy: In the US and around the world, nuclear development impedes renewable energy. It requires billions of dollars and decades to build, diverting money, time, and political will that is needed to speed the transition to renewable energy. New Yorkers were forced to pay over \$520 million to subsidize old nuclear reactors in 2023, while solar and wind garnered just \$51 million. Imagine if we had invested nuclear subsidies instead in energy efficiency and building renewables. New nuclear power plants will not fix that problem, costing at least 5 times more than onshore wind.

Nuclear energy generates radioactive waste that is deadly for thousands of years: There is no "solution" for this deadly waste, making all of the existing nuclear sites in NY radioactive waste dumps. NY's shuttered West Valley nuclear reprocessing site is testament to the failures of the nuclear industry. It remains one of the most contaminated places in the country, threatening the Great Lakes and drinking water for millions.

NYSERDA must not waste New Yorkers' time and money on an unproven and dangerous technology with serious economic, environmental, and health problems. Solar and wind power and battery storage are affordable now; they are low risk, quick to build, and proven. We must prioritize these technologies and meet the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. The draft blueprint is a costly and dangerous distraction we cannot afford.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]