CRAFT files Intervention in Fermi License Extension

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE…….. REDFORD, MI

Citizens’ Resistance At Fermi Two (CRAFT) has filed a Leave to Intervene and Request for Public Hearing in DTE Electric Company’s application to extend the operating license of the Enrico Fermi Unit 2 for an additional 20 years. The CRAFT petition includes 21 contentions (reasons) for their intervention:

- Wind Power is a Viable Option;
- Walpole Island First Nation has been excluded from the proceedings;
- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission cannot lawfully issue licenses until the courts lift the ban;
- There must be an Environmental Impact Statement done for the Transmission Corridors;
- Faulty Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation;
- Inadequate Mitigation Strategies;
- Aging Management Plan is not adequate for leak detection;
- The Severe Accident Mitigation Plan is faulty;
- The Quality Assurance Plan is severely lacking;
- There are open Safety Assurance violations;
- DTE has ignored recent public health data;
- Fermi 2’s thermal discharge contributes to the Algae blooms;
- Inadequate radiation standards;
- Appeal for a reconsideration of a previous ruling.

“Nuclear-produced electricity is an outmoded technology that needs to be phased out of our country’s energy policy, as it is in the rest of the world,” said Jim Sherman, CRAFT Steering Committee member. “The government wants these dangerous reactors to keep running for the nuclear weapons program.”

Studies have shown that wind is a viable option for the Lake Erie region, and DTE has admitted that in their license application Environmental Report. “Whereas a single wind farm generation unit would not provide consistent power generation, multiple wind farms scattered
within a reasonable region and interconnected together via the grid may potentially provide power generation that could approach base-load capacity.” (Page 7-7)

The operating license for Fermi 2 does not expire for another 11 years, but DTE applied in April for a 20-year extension, which would enable the reactor to operate for another 31 years. CRAFT seeks to use the public hearing to alert the general public to the dangers of unnecessarily allowing a Fukushima-like accident to happen here.

“Even without a severe accident, Fermi 2 is polluting Lake Erie every day with normal operations,” said Sherman, referring to an article regarding the local Toledo drinking water crisis by Yoichi Shimatsu, *Lake Erie Toxic Water Linked to Fermi Nuclear Plant*. “Fermi and DTE’s coal fired plant have raised the Lake Erie water temperature to 70-90 degrees, while Lake Erie water temperatures are in the 60s north and east of us. Algae thrive in warm water, as do invasive species.”

CRAFT met the August 18 filing deadline, but does not expect to hear whether or not they will be granted a public hearing until September at the earliest.

For additional information, contact Jessie Pauline Collins, 313-766-4311, or jessiepauline@gmail.com A COPY OF THE PETITION IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.