Pennsylvania Nuke Victims Get $52.5M from Babcock & Wilcox

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People who live near a former nuclear fuel plant in western Pennsylvania will get $52.5 million to settle their 14-year-old lawsuit against Babcock & Wilcox Co..

The settlement, approved Friday by a federal judge in Pittsburgh, ends the final claim brought by 365 people who live in the Apollo area, about 35 miles northeast of Pittsburgh.

The same group last year got $27.5 million to settle claims against Atlantic Richfield Co. that plant emissions and groundwater pollution caused an unusually high cancer rate, other illnesses and property damage.

The case concerns the former Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corp. plant, which was built in 1957 and sold to ARCO in 1967. B&W bought the plant in 1971 and has been cleaning up the site since shutting it down in the 1980s.

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