

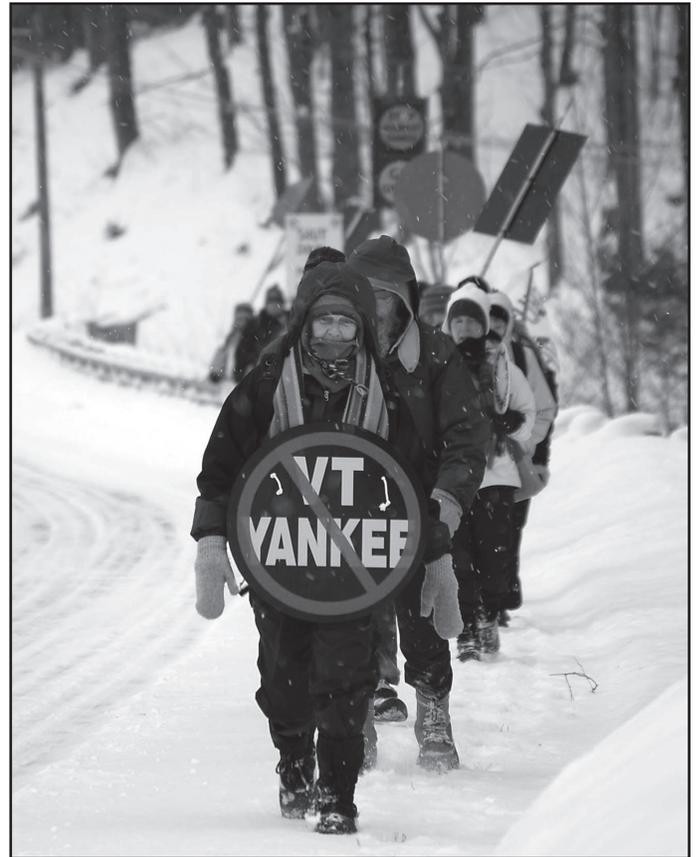
The CAN-Did Press

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CITIZENS AWARENESS NETWORK
 ACT TODAY TO CHANGE TOMORROW...

We Live in Exciting Times

On February 24, 2010, the Vermont Senate courageously voted to close Vermont Yankee in 2012. This vote was four years in the making—beginning in 2006 with CAN and a coalition of groups working to pass Act 160. Act 160 empowered the VT legislature to decide Entergy Vermont Yankee’s future. Without the organizing work of CAN and others, this success would not have been possible. Legislators got 1,000’s of phone calls urging them to vote no. The final vote was 26 for shutdown and only 4 for continued operation. This vote is the beginning of the end for Entergy and its supporters. Without your help, this vote would never have taken place!

As the Obama Administration is declaring its support for a new generation of nuclear reactors subsidized by the American people, we here in New England are changing the course of history. We are making it clear that we want real progress towards energy independence—progress that doesn’t subsidize a dying industry, but supports the expansion of sustainable energy solutions that will bring not just independence but a true revitalization to our communities.



125-Mile Winter Walk from Brattleboro to Montpelier

Late summer, as we began to plan this action, I described it to an activist friend of mine. After listening to my ideas, he responded, “and what are you going to do when you get to the Statehouse, douse yourselves with gasoline and burn yourselves in protest?” He thought walking 125 miles to Montpelier in the dead of winter was crazy. I knew then that the walk could be successful - a success because it created a dramatic format to deliver our message to the newly convened 2010 Vermont Legislature - shut Vermont Yankee down - that people who lived in the tri-state region sacrificed 12 days walking to the Capital in early January to deliver this message. Although the idea was an extreme, dif-

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Leaks and Lies

This historic vote took place in the context of Entergy’s contaminating the Connecticut River. For months on end, it searched
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Photos by Cate Woolner, www.catewoolnerphoto.com

Exciting Times

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for leaking underground pipes—pipes it swore under oath never existed. The corporation refused to shut down while it dug test well after test well to locate the leaks. Neither the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), PSB nor DOH ordered the corporation to shutdown to stop the polluting of the environment during this time. Although asked repeatedly by CAN's expert Marvin Resnicoff and the legislature's consultant Arnie Gunderson, the DOH's tests centered on tritium, (exceeding EPA drinking water limits by orders of magnitude) ignoring radionuclides that were as dangerous, if not more so, than tritium. Whose health and safety were NRC and DOH protecting? Certainly not the people of the tri-state community!

Too Little, Too Late

Now Entergy swears all the leaks have been found and we need to accept a new and improved corporation. The recent discovery of Cesium-137 contamination (from faulty fuel rods) in test wells, as well as other corroded pipes raises serious questions about other leaks and other lies. It's important to realize that the site is a nuclear pigsty that has been leaking for years.

Entergy's response? It wants us to congratulate them for finding the source of one set of leaks and not think about the deterioration of pipes, its deferred maintenance, its deceptions, its lack of transparency and their refusal to turn over documents to the Vermont Public Service Board, and its refusal to accept the overwhelming vote to close Vermont Yankee on schedule. It wants a replay on the vote!

And there is their lies and fear mongering about skyrocketing energy prices, lack of clean replacement power, and now jobs. Its alarmist claims of escalating prices and lack of replacement power have been refuted over and over. All Entergy has left is to exaggerate the number of jobs it provides to the state economy. In fact, Entergy employs less than 250 Vermont workers; the rest (400) live in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Many more jobs would be created by an aggressive investment in renewables and efficiency while Entergy continues to employ its skilled workforce in cleanup of its contaminated site. Entergy's concern for its

workforce is opportunistic. Entergy isn't interested in employing its skilled workforce if it can't continue to operate; it wants to mothball the site and cut jobs to the bone.

It's Not Over

Our work is not over. Remember, Entergy wants a replay and already the 4 Senators that voted to continue operation are talking about another vote next year! It is essential that the 26-4 vote in the Vermont Senate be upheld. Entergy and the Douglas administration will be working hard to present Entergy as reformed and now a good neighbor. With the LLC Enexus down the tubes after NYS nixed the deal because it was too risky and had too large a debt, one major objection to license renewal is now off the table. We will need to keep the pressure on and raise all the reasons why Vermont Yankee needs to close as scheduled in 2012.

We need to continue to move forward to stop Entergy's quest for a replay. We can't underestimate what future lies Entergy will spin to ensure running for another 20 years. The reality is that it has very little to offer- there is no good price deal, the power is replaceable (GMP and CVPS are already doing it), but its public relations team is working overtime to create a new and improved corporation that works hard, supports local businesses and organizations-even buying the Xmas lights for Brattleboro's streets!

Not bad for a corporation that gave its CEO 25 million! However, Entergy is not loyal enough to commit to retaining its dedicated, skilled workforce in the cleanup of its contaminated site thereby ensuring jobs for its workers for years to come.

Help Us To Ensure There Is No Re-Vote in 2010

So, this fight is definitely not over. We might need to say "no" over and over again to any bill designed to support Vermont Yankee's continued operation, as Entergy won't give up easily; it will try to show the "new and improved" Entergy! We'll have our lobbyist, and our organizing and we'll also be working with

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Winter Walk

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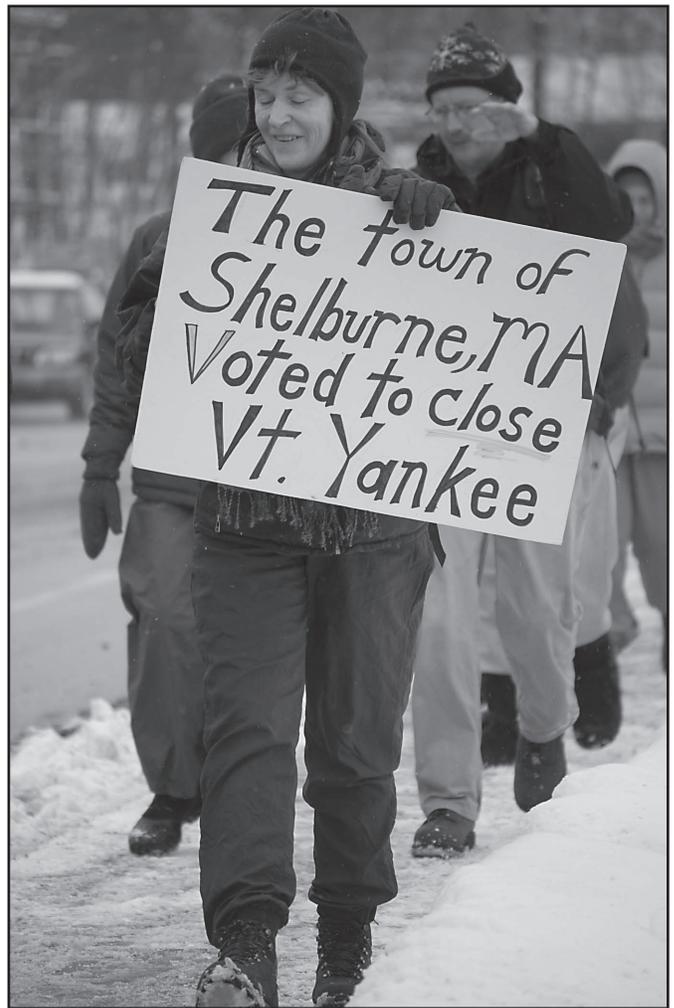
difficult undertaking, in reality, with good organizing, it really was a doable endeavor.

We began walking in Brattleboro, following the Connecticut River to White River Junction and then followed the White River to South Royalton, with the final 35 miles through a farming valley up Rt 14 to Montpelier. While the weather was cold, sometimes around zero, it was exceptionally dry. The cold and snow was not much of a problem if you were well dressed and warm from the walking. We had an RV that met us every 2-3 miles, providing food and facilities. Whenever we stopped we were warmly welcomed and hosted by the community- staying in churches, a community center, and a few nights in private homes. The cooks traveled ahead, insuring that hot meals were waiting when the walkers arrived. There were also large evening potlucks along the way. There were 15 people from Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire that walked the entire route and about 250 others walked the route, some for one day, some for several days. All in all, there were between 15-150 people walking at any given time.

It was an exceptionally positive experience. The support and encouragement we received from a cross section of Vermonters along the way was truly inspiring. For many of the walkers, the walk afforded a rare opportunity to spend an extended period of time in a beautiful winter landscape. We became immersed in the experience, a multi-generational traveling community, with a simple focus—to help move the Vermont state legislature to vote to close VY when its operating license expires in 2012.

To get our message out we relied on good media coverage, particularly within Vermont. Vermont Public radio, several major Vermont newspapers, and regional TV stations gave us extensive and in-depth coverage. We also were stealing the headlines away from Entergy which was then presenting its slick, high-priced “We Are Vermont” TV campaign attempting to influence legislators.

Our arrival at the Statehouse in Montpelier on January 13



was highlighted by a packed press conference. We presented a petition with over 1700 signatures from people in the evacuation zone calling for the legislature to close VY in 2012. Both the Speaker of the House, Shap Smith, and President Pro Tem of the Senate Peter Shumlin, officially received the petition and made supportive statements. The word from the people’s lobbyist Bob Stannard, and allied legislators was that we had created a “big buzz” in the statehouse building.

It’s hard to know the impact of any one action, particularly without the advantage of time passing. I do know that we provided a platform for our voices to be heard, that we stimulated many people to feel encouraged and active in the towns that neighbor Vermont Yankee, and ultimately this action contributed to the mix of events and efforts that’s ensuring that VY will close in March of 2012.

- Bob Bady, Brattleboro, VT
for the Safe & Green Campaign,
bobbady@gmail.com

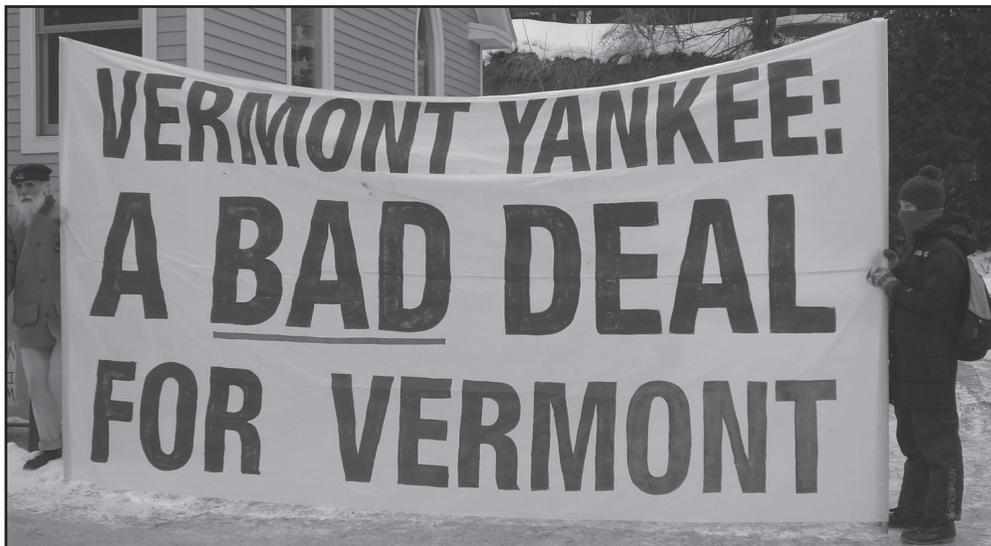


Photo by Paki Wieland



Citizen's Lobbyist Bob Stannard's Report – March/April 2010

We are closing in on the end of the 2009-2010 legislative biennium and thus far we have had a very successful year. On February 24 the Vermont State Senate introduced legislation, S. 549, which would have allowed the Public Service Board to issue a Certificate of Public Good for the continued operation of

the Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee for another 20 years.

That legislation died on the Senate floor by an astonishing vote of 26-4. Few, if any, thought that the Vermont Senate would have been the body to act and to act so resoundingly, but act they did.

Critics said that the vote was unnecessary and irrelevant. They couldn't have been more wrong. This vote has resonated around America with people watching in awe of what Vermont has been able to do in regards to trying to close this aged, leaking, mismanaged plant.

On March 25 Entergy held a press conference in which they announced that they have found and stopped the tritium leak discovered on January 7, 2010. We would note that the Associated Press reported that the leak had been discovered, the drain unclogged and the leak stopped two weeks previously. At their press conference they declared that they are on the rebound. They have rid themselves of the folks who lied under oath. They've found the leak. They said that they now want to be the leaders in the industry in tritium leaks resolution. It's now time to live happily ever after.

That night I was asked to appear on WPTZ-TV 5:30 LIVE show. I stated that this was nothing more than yet another public relations stunt and that most, if not all of their plants proposed to go into the Enexus plan were leaking.

Speaking of Enexus, the same day that Entergy declared it was turning a corner, the New York Public Service Commission

voted 5-0 denying the formation of Enexus. This decision resulted in a severe blow to Entergy, as they have to rid themselves of the responsibility and liability their merchant plants pose to their stockholders. You can expect to see Entergy come forth with some new scheme to get rid of these plants in the very near future.

We are now turning our attention to the Vermont House. Inasmuch as the Senate has already spoken, there is little need for the House to take any action on continued operation of the plant. However, the Senate vote brings us closer to ensuring the plant will close in 2012, therefore Vermonters need to be protected from the crushing financial burden of decommissioning the plant.

The House Natural Resources Committee voted out yet another decommissioning bill. Originally, this bill created three separate trust funds that need to be fully funded by March of 2012. One fund would deal with the storage of high-level nuclear waste. One fund would insist that the current decommissioning fund be fully funded by 2012. The third fund would address restoring the site to 'greenfield' status. This latter fund would require a cash deposit of \$40 million based on 2006 dollars - roughly \$50 million today. Entergy agreed to the issue of restoring the site to greenfield status when it bought the plant. Also, the bill would hold Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee, LLC, as well as Entergy Nuclear Operations responsible. ENO actually has enormous resources.

The bill ended up getting very watered down in order to appease Rep. Joe Krawczyk, R-Bennington and Vice Chair of the committee. \$40 million up front got reduced to only \$10 million and the dates to fully fund the various funds got moved back to 2032 - twenty years. Moving the dates was something that the Douglas Administration insisted on and got. This action allows people to believe that the plant can, and will, go on for twenty more years, which is why Gov. Douglas has declared he will sign this decommissioning bill. Even Rep. Patty O'Donnell, R-Vernon, likes this bill!

The decommissioning bill was voted out of committee on Friday, April 2, and has already been heralded in the eyes of the plant's supporters as one more obstacle now out of the way.

We have worked closely with Sen. Peter Shumlin trying to convince him that this bill should die this year and be taken up again either in 2011, or better yet 2012, when everyone will know for certain that this plant will be closing. Once this fact has become eminently clear then we can expect to see a very strong decommissioning bill pass.

Sen. Shumlin is taking a lot of heat for doing the right thing and he deserves support for his continued efforts to close this plant.

Respectfully submitted by,

Bob Stannard, Citizen's Lobbyist for VCAN

(VT Citizen Action Network), bob@bobstannard.com

Calling all Volunteers

CAN and VCAN are looking for a few people to help us keep the information on our website and other communication tools flowing (e-mail newsletters, Facebook, etc...). A high-speed internet connection, such as Cable or DSL and a somewhat recent computer (either Mac or PC) is needed. Previous experience using a content management system, such as Drupal or WebGUI, is preferred but not required. Training will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Chris at (508) 414-0766 or e-mail chrisf@nukebusters.org. If you have previous website experience, please provide the name of the site you worked on.



Our vision of Vermont Yankee in 2012
Together we can make it happen!

 **CITIZENS AWARENESS NETWORK**
 www.nukebusters.org • (413) 339-5781 (802) 767-9131

A Great Victory... But the Fight Still Goes On...

Since 2006, when the Vermont Legislature first passed Act 160, VCAN has been organizing in communities throughout Vermont. Our message was simple and consistent, “because of Act 160, legislators will take an up or down vote on the future of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant.” On February 24th of this year the Vermont Senate voted by an overwhelming margin on 26 to 4 to close the troubled plant on schedule in 2012.

The Senate vote mirrors the feedback VCAN has received from thousands of Vermonters we have spoken with while going door to door in scores of communities. It is gratifying to see the will of the people reflected in the Vermont Senate’s historic vote. In fact, many folks said, “great job... now we can stand down”. Unfortunately, even with such an astounding vote for a green energy future without VY, our work is far from over.

Entergy, the second largest nuclear operator in the country, has vowed to continue it’s relentless efforts to relicense the aged

facility. In fact, the company has threatened to pour massive resources (\$\$\$) into Vermont to reshape the makeup of the Vermont Senate in the hope of having a new vote and achieving a more favorable outcome.

And so the fight goes on. The next year will no doubt bring an Entergy media blitz, Entergy involvement in the fall elections, a swarm of Entergy lobbyists at the State House, and Entergy offering Vermonters “good deals” or “gifts.” VCAN will step up our efforts and combat Entergy’s paid media lies, interference in our elections, and attempts to bribe the good people of Vermont.

We would ask all of our supporters to continue the fight with us. Now is the time to communicate with your legislators and tell them to stand firm and shut VY on schedule, clean up the mess, and create a sane energy future.

- Chris Williams. VCAN VT organizer, cevan@sover.net

Hold the Dates! – August 14th & 15th

A Musical Dinner Party, CD Release, and Benefit for VCAN

On Saturday, August 14th, VCAN (the Vermont Citizens Action Network) will host a special benefit dinner at the Organ Barn at Tree Frog Farm in Guilford, Vermont. There will be wonderful gourmet food and drink and musical entertainment by Patty Carpenter and the Dysfunctional Family Jazz Band (DFJB). Great food, great music for a great cause! Suggested donation is \$50-\$100 a plate. Seating is limited to fifty, so reserve early.

On Sunday afternoon, August 15th, there will be an outdoor concert and CD Release Party — also at Tree Frog Farm. The DFJB will play selections from their new album *Come Over* including narrative and spoken word segments by Verandah Porche, co-writer with Patty of many of the tunes. The second section of the concert will feature an opened up jam session and dance. Food

and beverages will be provided. Proceeds will benefit VCAN. Suggested donation- \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

Call 413-625-6177 for reservations and credit card payments. Please make checks payable to VCAN and mail to VCAN, PO Box 83, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370. Confirmation and directions will be mailed upon receipt.

About Come Over and the DFJB:

The Dysfunctional Family Jazz Band is a mother, father, daughter group who are often accused of functioning just fine, at least musically. They have recently finished a new album of original music titled *Come Over* that will be officially released in 2010.

Vocalist and composer, Patty Carpenter teamed up with her long-time friend and writing partner, poet Verandah Porche, to write their life into song. *Come Over* muses on the ups and downs of lives lived on rural communes and big city communities— from raising children and barns, to losses, lovers and friends. Patty is joined on the new CD by her daughter, Melissa Shetler, on vocals; her ex, Scott Shetler, on sax, clarinet, and mandolin;

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VCAN Announces Winner of Solar Panel Raffle



The Vermont Citizens Action Network (VCAN) announced the winner of its "Solar Panel Raffle" which ran from November 2009 thru March 2010. Eugene Roe of Granville, NH is the winner of a home solar panel system retailing for \$5,000.

"You know, I never win anything so I don't usually try, but this was different. I said so what if I lose, at least I took a chance on something important, something I really believe in," replied a grinning Eugene when asked about the drawing results.

The drawing took place at a party attended by over 150 people in Brattleboro, VT in celebration of the 26-4 vote in the VT Senate to shut Vermont Yankee on March 21, 2012.

The raffle was organized to promote local, renewable energy solutions and to raise money for VCAN's citizen lobbying efforts to close and replace the Vermont Yankee nuclear reactor, operated by Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee. It was a great success. VCAN raised approximately \$10,000 for its citizen lobbying efforts and sold 360 of the 450 raffle tickets available.

We would like to extend a big shout out "Thank You" to

CD Release, and Benefit for VCAN

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and Jill Gross (Scott's wife), along with cousin Brooke Lundy, on back-up vocals.

Backing them are a host of top notch musicians including: Tony Garnier, Bob Dylan's long-time bass player and musical director; James Wormworth, wonder boy drummer and percussionist from The Tonight Show; and Brian Mitchell, from the Levon Helm band, on accordion and organ. The album was mastered by Grammy winning producer Rob Fraboni (Bonnie Raitt, Keith Richards, Melissa Ethridge, etc.) and is being released on his new label, Hand Made Recordings.

From the reggae beats of "Love Bound" and the Turkish dobro of "Nancy," to the down home roots of "Solace," this is a true album, crafted not as a collection of songs but as a tale. Come on over.

Check out the DFJB on the web at www.dfjbmusic.com.

Claire Chang and John Ward of the Greenfield, MA Solar Store who provided us with the solar panels and inverters for the raffle.

For more info: www.vtcitizen.org or contact Chad Simmons at [cibtossin@yahoo.com](mailto:cbtossin@yahoo.com)



Will Nukem picks the winner of the Solar Panel Raffle!

Exciting Times

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a great coalition of organizations throughout the state to continue to activate Vermonters to tell their legislators loud and clear... "Uphold the Senate Vote - Shut Down Vermont Yankee."

Give Today To Change Tomorrow!

None of this work would be possible without you and your support. We need all the help we can get, so please get involved and get active. We Need You Now! We need you to give as much as you possibly can, to help us to stop Entergy, and choose your own energy future without nuclear power!

Will you help us act today to change tomorrow?

- Deb Katz, Executive Director, CAN

deb@nukebusters.org

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www.nukebusters.org

We Couldn't Do It Without Your Help!

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