

Morrow County OK's Co-existence of Nuclear Plant and Navy

More than 100 gathered at the Nuclear Council public meeting Friday at Boardman to hear Morrow County testimony from 23 who expressed no concern about radiation or other hazards in the co-existence of the proposed PGE thermal nuclear power plant and the Navy's bombing range. Testimony from the Morrow County people followed a condensed version of information given by PGE at the Portland hearing on the Monday previous.

PGE's Mr. Porter
Mr. Porter noted the increase in the electric load that it had doubled the last 10 years. In 1971 they had added 14,000 customers and in 1972, 19,500. "Power is extremely tight", he said. "The Carty Reservoir site is the only Oregon site upon which we have time to construct a nuclear fueled plant to meet the generation requirements in 1980."

PGE's Mr. Williams
Mr. Williams is vice president in charge of construction. PGE has identified seven potential reservoir sites on the Oregon side of the Columbia River in the area east of Arlington.

Geological and seismological investigations were carried on and their Board of Consultants, expert geologists, mineralogists, seismologists and geophysicists eliminated from further consideration at this time five sites.

Subsurface investigation proceeded on two sites, namely Six Mile Canyon and Carty Reservoir. As a result of this investigation, Carty Reservoir was determined to be the better. Notice of Intent was prepared to construct either a nuclear or fossil fueled plant on the Carty Reservoir site and was filed Feb. 16, 1972. "It is our intent to file an Application for a Site Certification on the Carty Reservoir on Feb. 16, 1973, which is the earliest possible date we can file according to State law."

Carty Reservoir site meets the various criteria for qualifying as a good site because:

1. It is a multiple purpose site.
2. Water is available.

3. It is in an area of low seismic activity.
4. Good foundations.
5. Reservoir large enough for more plants.
6. The reservoir will hold water.
7. Acceptable meteorology.
8. Low population density.
9. Rail-River and highway transportation available.
10. Land is available.
11. Close to existing transmission rights of way.
12. The majority of the people in the local area want the plant.
13. I can be developed in time to meet our needs.
14. There is an on-going irrigation and land use plan involving future use of reservoir. In this respect the Carty Reservoir site appears clearly superior.

Economic Benefits Expected

Mr. Williams also gave economic benefits that could be expected. The estimated net take-home pay for construction workers on the project between 1975 and 1980 would be \$35,810,000. In addition to this, the take-home pay of the Bechtel and Portland General Electric Company site staff would be \$4,215,000 during this same period of time. Local purchases of material and supplies are estimated to be about \$2,500,000 during the construction period.

Once the plant becomes operational, the take home pay of the plant operating staff would exceed \$1,000,000 per year. In addition to this, during certain periods of the year, maintenance and refueling personnel would be stationed in the area with take-home pay of \$40,000 per year and local purchase of supplies and materials would be about \$120,000 per year.

Both during construction and after completion, several million dollars taxes per year will be levied against the project.

Aircraft Hazards
John Grund, chief nuclear engineer, gave probabilities of a crash on the plant site based on figures given to PGE by the Navy.



Merlin Hughes and Ken Turner exchange words and hats with Admiral John Tierney at the Nuclear Council hearing in Boardman. Ken hoists one of the 25 pound "bombs" that is used in the Navy drops on the Boardman Bombing range. The Admiral is wearing Merlin's western hat.

The experience at the Boardman facility over a 12-year period there have been five crashes in 173,376 runs. The probability of natural phenomenon hitting the plant would be 1 in a million. The probability of a plane crash is less than that.

Five percent of the time planes use the corridor that now angles about 1.6 miles from the plant. The Navy has agreed to change the angle of the corridor 11 degrees which would place the plant 3.2 miles away from the corridor.

The plant is located at the furthest radial distance from the target and is located at best possible angular heading and still remain on the shore of the cooling pond.

"If the Navy relocates the corridors as they have indicated is possible, than the probability of a crash on the plant site is one in a hundred million million."

Figures for Hardening
Mr. Williams gave figures for planes of various sizes, speeds and angles the plant could be hit, top and sides. "Technically it is no problem". Walls built 3 feet to 5 feet thick and roof to 7 feet thick with cement and reinforcing steel. It has been done before. Cost could be upped 20 million which PGE is willing to do.



A close up of the "bomb".

A member of the Council suggested it would be cheaper for PGE to help the Navy move since they say it will cost them 10 million to move if they had a place to move. This brought chuckles from about the room.

Rear Admiral John Tierney, Admiral John Tierney, commander Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island reviewed the use and the history of the Navy acquired Boardman Facility. There are six deploying squadrons based at Whidbey and the training squadrons for replacement pilots and bombardier navigators. They use the Boardman Training Facility for low level simulated strike flights and drop approximately 17,000 inert training devices on the facility. The training weapon is a 25 pound hunk of metal shaped like a bomb with a small shotgun shell smoke spotting charge.

"It is the Navy's view that the transfer of the western half of the original facility to the State of Oregon satisfied the Navy's obligation to Congress". This was the note to "reconsider use of the range upon completion of the John Day Dam Project with due consideration of the purpose for which the project is being constructed."

Public Law 87-365 authorized the transfer of 48,261 A. of public land to the state of Oregon. The Navy to re-orient their range facilities to the remaining 47,000 acres.

Realizing the additional development potential and local interest the Navy has continued to investigate possible alternatives. None were found to be acceptable. Recently the Navy has contracted with Stanford Research Institute for a study of the matter. If an alternative site is located which is economically and operationally acceptable, if the land is available for acquisition and if funds are allocated, then the Navy would not object to relinquishing the present facility when the alternate site is operational." Such a move would require about three years.

Admiral Tierney went on to say that he could foresee no problem of coexistence with the Carty Nuclear Site develop-

ment. They were prepared to change the run-in corridors should the Atomic Energy require this as a condition for approval of the Carty Site. That through appropriate leasing agreements, the requirements for Carty Reservoir could be accommodated. "We will be responsive to reasonable requests that do not seriously degrade our training requirements".

Atomic Energy Commission
Mr. Grimes with the Atomic Energy Council Washington, D.C. said with the application for site co-existence with the Navy all statistical data submitted would be studied. If the probability of a crash is too high, they would demand the facility be hardened. Before a construction permit is granted there is a Construction review; review of site, preliminary design of the plant, environmental aspects, reactor safeguards and a public hearing near the locality.

Operative Permit is reviewed 18 months before construction is completed.

Observation is maintained throughout the life time of the plant.

Morrow County Testimony
Judge Paul Jones led the local residents in giving testimony to support the co-existence of the nuclear plant and the Navy but hoped that someday the Navy could move and add another 50,000 acres for irrigated farming.

No one spoke out against the nuclear plant. No one voiced a concern about safety. They were interested in the increased evaluation, the potential for agriculture and other economic benefits.

Rupe Kennedy for Gar Swanson, Port of Morrow Chairman: 200,000 acres can eventually be irrigated with the coolant water from a cluster of four nuclear plants. Oscar Peterson: co-existence until the Navy can move. Vern Russell, City of Boardman: relocate as soon as

possible. Lee Docken: we can raise everything from catfish to potatoes. Dorris Graves: "We're interested in taxes".

The members of the Council asked her to give them a copy of the Morrow County Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Joe Tatone spoke for her brother Carl Wicklander. "We can cope with the growing pains". D.O. Nelson: a great potential for agriculture. In 1972 Morrow County's 6000 new irrigated acres raised potatoes which brought in an income of 6 million 800 thousand dollars.

Ken Turner: take the pressure off our deep wells. Dave Harrison: "move the Navy". Bud Marshall said he echoed sentiments as presented by Judge Jones. Randall Peterson: the advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

Vel Robinson: 28 sections of the bombing range are in the designated serving area of Columbia Basin Electric. Chester Wilson: avoid shortage of power in future years. Dick McElligott: Don't want anything that smokes or stinks. Louis Carlson: irrigate crops here-to-for not known in Morrow County.

Don McKinnis, with the State Dept. of Agriculture favors the nuclear power plant development.

From Umatilla County Ed Hoelt and Ralph Saylor: lands for recreation and wild life. The bombing range should be moved by the time the plant is in production even though co-existence is approved.

Merlin Hughes: we're losing acres to urban sprawl and freeways. We'd like to keep cattle here to the finish.

Walter Karnopp: The Navy's use of the land is improper. There's no rocks in that soil. Mrs. Joe Bartlett: we're safer next to nuclear plant than crossing the freeway.

Three Weeks
The Council moved to keep the records open for three weeks to allow members to study the transcript before advising PGE whether their proposed plant near the bombing range is feasible.

VISIT HAWAII

Mr. and Mrs. Clint McQuarrie and Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Donnell recently returned from a trip to Hawaii and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Anderson, who went over with them stayed a few days longer, returning on Monday. The Andersons' sons, Erick, Steve and Charles came home before the rest of the folks. They stayed first in Honolulu on the island of Oahu. From there the McQuarries and O'Donnells went to Maui and then to Kona on the island of Hawaii. The Andersons flew directly from Honolulu to Kona. While there they visited the Polynesian Culture Center in Honolulu, Pearl Harbor, Punch Bowl Burial Ground. They drove in to the rural area through fields of sugar cane and pineapple and visited the Dole pineapple plantation where they were served pineapple. Kona is mostly volcanic rock, but surprisingly, things grow there. They saw the largest orchard in the world there growing for macadamia nuts.

Learn About Children's Clothing

Find out the how's and why's and what to look for's of children clothing at the Oregon State University Extension Service sponsored special interest lessons on "Children's Clothing". These lessons will be held in Pendleton at the Peace Lutheran Church, 9th and Carden, on Thursday, February 1, and Tuesday, February 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. says Debbie Barker, Extension Home Economist. Those attending should bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea will be furnished.

According to Miss Barker, the first lesson will deal with selection of fabric or ready made children's clothing, planning for growth, preparing before you sew, choosing clothing that "grows", and a time for the sharing of ideas.

The second lesson will include demonstrations on how to make children's clothing from fabric scraps, apply appliques, use decorative stitching, prepare the world there growing for macadamia nuts.



Order of the Walrus.

The Chamber of Commerce at Anchorage has a fist full of brochures to give you when you visit in Anchorage. Included is a certificate of membership in the Order of the Walrus and a lapel pin of the head of a walrus.

Funny that I would bump into two of these pins lately. Mr. Elfstrom, chairman of the Oregon Nuclear Council was wearing his at the hearing Friday. He was enthusiastic about Anchorage and had enjoyed this trip just last summer. Monday as I visited with Dave Harrison at Chamber of Commerce, he was wearing one. He must have made the trip with a group of "power people". He said the Mayor of Anchorage had been there to present them at the time he received his.

I was always going to have ear rings made from ours. Right now I guess I'd hae to find them first. But that Alaska trip was a real fun trip.

Many Thanks
We've always told our printers that we have to be prepared for the unexpected. But last Wednesday's unexpected were almost the limit. It really started Tuesday evening. Jo's machine, the new computer started heating up and quit

working. We went to the linotype. It stopped. A call to Arnold in Pendleton. He described what to do because he had it act that way before. No luck. Charlie and Phil couldn't find the trouble. At 12:30 Arnold called to see how we were coming and since we weren't coming he hopped into his car and came over. Matter of minutes and he had the linotype moving ok...but the computer stumped him.

The next morning, having lost all of Tuesday evening's type setting time, there was lots of copy on the hook. Then the e's, of all letters in the alphabet, wouldn't drop. Three hours on the linotype and Phil had only set 2 1/2 galleys. No way we'd ever make it. Hermiston called to see when we were coming. Their machine was free so they said they'd set our type.

So away we went. As soon as they had a galley off, we pasted up. La Grande's paper went on the press, the Hermiston paper went on the press. By that time we'd missed the mail truck anyway...and the Gazette-Times went on the press.

MANY MANY MANY Thanks to Arnold and the Hermiston Herald folks. They know "the papers gotta come out".

The Extension sponsored lessons are open to all interested persons. Since the first lesson is not a pre-requisite to lesson two, one may attend either or both lessons says Miss Barker.

For further information on the coming "Children's Clothing" lessons, please contact the Pendleton Extension Office, 276-7111, Extension 300.

Vicki Butler Speaks At BMCC

A Blue Mountain Community college student from Pendleton won second place in a speech contest Friday at California State University, Humboldt.

Donna Lovell, sophomore in

speech pathology, placed second in expository speaking. Competing with 20 women, she spoke on stuttering. She plans to spend her junior year studying in Brazil.

Four other BMCC students competed in the event, the 8th Annual All-Junior Division Forensics Tournament, held at Arcata, California. Two of them, Rita Cheadie and Ernie Hawks, Pendleton, won third place in debate. The subject was a national comprehensive medical care program for all citizens.

Vicki Butler, Heppner, spoke on Pendleton's Outdoor School in the expository competition, and Beth Hall, Pendleton, spoke on women's liberation in the oratory contest.

Sans Souci Starts New Year

The Noble Grand also appointed Mary McMurtry as Community Service Chairman to finish the unexpired term of Mattie Green. Clara Gertson audited the books the first part of January and her report plus some needful suggestions, was accepted.

Money in the President's Project box was counted. This will be mailed to Assembly Secretary, Arlene Young. The President's project for this year is to buy new movie equipment for the I.O.O.F. Home. This is a very worthwhile project as the present equipment is badly in need of replacement. Senior Citizens at the home derive much enjoyment from this service.

Mary McMurtry gave the trustees report on the annual inventory. Lulu Johnson is making application for the I.O.O.F. Home. Lulu is a Pioneer of Morrow County. She has been a Rebekah for 51 years, and 50 of them in Sans Souci. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hinton, were Charter members of this lodge. It was instituted and incorporated in 1887. Lulu has made her home in Hawaii for many years but at present is living with her daughter in Eugene. She will be 93 this year.

Get well and cheer cards were sent to Alta Stevens, Mildred Padberg, Ellen Moore, Bernice Dizney and Ima McDaniel.

The members chose the month of April to serve refreshments to the Senior Citizens at the Neighborhood Center.

Hostesses for the evening were Esther Bergstrom and Opal Cook. The next meeting will be February 2.

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