

NEIS 2014:

*“Nuclear’s All Out War on Renewables!”
NEIS Fights Back!*

Highlights and Accomplishments



Nuclear Energy Information Service

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Message from the Board

Dear Members of NEIS:

The future of Illinois' energy policy and the direction of the anti-nuclear power movement will be determined over the next six months. Illinois' legislators will direct that future as they decide which energy supplies will be encouraged or discouraged. Over the past year we have worked to inform the public and legislators about our concerns. This coming summer is a critical time for all of us who are concerned about the future of renewable energy and the continuation of nuclear energy in Illinois to continue this work.

Through our work as an organization this past year we have furthered NEIS' reputation for reliable timely information on issues related to the energy battle going on in Illinois. We have often been the lone representatives of opposition to nuclear power and played a key role in bringing forward information that would not have been discussed or addressed had we not been at the table, so to speak.

NEIS has joined forces with a variety of organizations working to support the expansion of renewable energy in Illinois and worked to educate the public and legislators as to why now is a critical time for renewable energy to be supported and encouraged in our state and not compromised away.

As the Spring session for Illinois' legislators in Springfield comes to an end we feel a sense of accomplishment in our contributions to stalling legislation sponsored by Exelon and ComEd that would ensure a nuclear power future for Illinois and restrain renewable energy and distributed generation.

This coming summer will require a lot out of us as the decisions regarding Illinois' energy future will be debated; but we know how critical this time will be so we *plan* on being very busy. We hope that our members will participate in the many NEIS' actions that will occur this summer and fall. This is an "all hands on deck" period, and your participation will give us more coverage and support to accomplish the many tasks ahead.

"The future depends on what you do today."

— Mahatma Gandhi --

Thank you from the NEIS board for your past support. We couldn't have done it without you.

Gail Snyder
President

Linda Lewison
Secretary

Dylan Clayton
Treasurer

Dorian Breuer

Carol Kurz
Stephanie Bilenko

Dennis Nelson

May 27, 2015

Director's Note...

Dear Members, Supporters and Friends,

It's much more difficult to write this Annual Note than you might think. I've already dumped two previous drafts. It would be easy to take the usual director's way out, and throw all kinds of stats and "we did this and that" stuff at you. But, that's what the Annual Meeting and our website are for. If you want to know what we've been up to, simply check out our website, our Calendar, our events, or open some of the e-mails we send you (some say far too often; but heck, if there weren't so much going on, you'd hear less from us, promise.).

I suppose what really matters to you are simply: 1.) are we winning? and 2.) is my contribution making a difference?

Regarding both these items, I would say, yes. And no.

Yes, in the sense that we have helped stop Exelon's nuclear attack on renewables in its tracks, at least in Illinois, and at least for the time being. We are seeing the rest of the world finally come around to what we have been saying for 34 years – we *can* have an energy future based on renewables and energy efficiency, and without the sword of Damocles threat of nuclear power hanging over humanity's neck. When the largest utility in Germany (E.ON Corp., 10 times more customers and 7 times more employees than Exelon in Illinois) goes public stating it is dumping nuclear and fossil fuels and transitioning over to renewables, efficiency and energy services, one can justifiably go, "Ahhh..." – at least for a little while. When UBS Financial starts advising investors that it should get out of "big box" traditional utilities, and move over to renewables and distributed power, it's time to pay attention. Follow the money, right?

The numbers, the facts, the roadmap – they've been on our side for decades. The rest of the world is finally catching on to that, reminiscent of Schopenhauer's observation that, ***"All Truth passes through 3 stages: first, it is ridiculed. Then, it is violently opposed. Finally, it is embraced as self-evident."*** Self evident. At least to rational people (you listening, Christopher Crane? Stephen G. Burns? Michael Madigan? Barack Obama?), not driven by political agendas.

Which brings me to "no." And this one is somewhat out of our control.

As Dylan Clayton once observed, "Man isn't a 'rational' animal; he's a 'rational-izing' animal!" (at the ripe old age of 11, mind you!). Our job then is to understand this pervasive human foible, and relentlessly continue doing what we think is right – simply because it *is* right, not because we expect to see the end result. The moral compass to answer whether or not you are making a difference comes from within, not from the outside; and not from easily visible results. But in case you still need a little outside validation, we at NEIS would like you to know: ***YES! You DO make a difference!***

So, when your feeling discouraged, or in deep doubt, simply ask: what would Marilyn Shineflugg do? (call us for an explanation.). In the meantime, just keep being unreasonable, demanding the impossible, and doing great things. Just – a little faster, or we're all toast.

Dave Kraft, Director

2014 Highlights & Accomplishments



NEIS members at the national Climate March in New York City in September, 2014.

In Action in 2014:

- NEIS: conducted 62 presentations/briefings, 17 tabling exhibitions, and 10 conferences and meetings; provided 55 briefings and comments to public officials; sent 25 Action Alerts; participated in 103 actions and planning meetings with coalition partners for events.
- NEIS participated in 12 radio/TV interviews; submitted 13 letters to the editor and sent 27 press releases; and assisted members of the media by providing background materials and sources 3 times. NEIS also produced 2 “Know-Nukes” shows with CAN-TV.
- NEIS developed/revised 33 literature pieces and 3 PowerPoints on program themes.
- NEIS met with staffers from 4 Congressional Reps and both Senators; the Attorney General’s staff 3 times; 5 state agency reps; and 10 state reps and senators on nuclear issues pertaining to Illinois. NEIS also had a session with the Chair of NRC, Allison Macfarlane
- NEIS lead the charge in Illinois against Exelon Corporation’s “nuclear war against renewable energy,” and its outrageous request to the State Legislature for a \$1.6 billion bailout for 5 money-losing reactors in Illinois.
- NEIS joined the Illinois Climate Table, to craft Illinois’ energy compliance plans for the EPA’s 111d Carbon Rules.
- NEIS launched the Radiation Monitoring Project with Diné No Nukes (NM) and Sloths against Nuclear State (NY), to purchase radiation monitors and training for reactor and front-line contaminated communities.

January

- Conducted briefing session with Atty. Gen. Lisa Madigan’s environmental staff in Chicago.
- Produced CAN-TV show on fracking in Illinois.



February

- Produced second CAN-TV show on fracking in Illinois.
- NEIS helps launch Chicago Climate Convergence group to make plans for Earth Day 2014.

March - 3rd anniversary of Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster

- Memorial event on the 3rd anniversary of the Fukushima disaster held at the Japanese Consulate.
- Participated in panel at the Peace on Earth Film Festival in Chicago.
- Tabled at the Wilmette Eco-Fair.
- Conducted film event at DePaul University featuring Indian activist and filmmaker Pradeep Indulkar, and his film, “High Power,” concerning the effects of the Tarapur Nuclear Power project.
- Participated in a Chicago Council on Global Affairs seminar on “Fukushima and the Future of Nuclear Power.”



April

- NEIS participates in IEC’s Lobby Day in Springfield.
- NEIS participates in the Climate Convergence Chicago Earth Day event.
- NEIS conducts street action at the GE Shareholders Meeting in Chicago
- Collaboration on an anti-fracking action at the State of Illinois Center with Rising Tide
- Presentation at the College of Complexes on the Chernobyl Anniversary..



Cows Against Fracking stage a die-in at State of Illinois Building to protest fracking

May

- NEIS conducts tabling at the Elgin Green Expo, and the Homer Glen Earth Day celebrations.
- NEIS participates in the 3-day “Tour de Frack” state chautauqua against fracking and tar sands pipelines.
- NEIS conducts educational meetings on the pro-nuclear HR1146 Resolution in Springfield.

June

- NEIS convenes two regional planning sessions against the Exelon pro-nuclear “war against renewables” plans, the EPA 111d compliance rule, and HR1146.
- Members of NEIS and Vista360 meet with NRC Chair Allison Macfarlane and staff about decommissioning issues, and NRC’s lack of a “safety culture.”
- NEIS and NIRS collaborate on a tabling/outreach/presentation effort on the “nuclear war against renewables” at the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair in Wisconsin.
- Two-day speaking tour event featuring NIRS director Tim Judson
- NEIS attends the Zion Z-CAP meeting.



NIRS' director Tim Judson at NEIS/NIRS table at the MWRE Fair.

July

- NEIS convenes an “Exelon strategy meeting” to deal with pro-nuclear carbon rule plans.
- NEIS hosts activist event featuring legendary Chris Williams for the IL Sierra Nuclear Free Campaign.
- NEIS tables at the Crosby, Stills and Nash Concert at Ravinia; leaflets on the EPA carbon rule at the



“Blue Planet” showing in Grant Park, Chicago; and participates in the CAPA Climate Change event at DePaul University.

August

- NEIS invited to give presentation on the Hiroshima Anniversary Ceremony at the Henry Moore Sculpture to Nuclear Energy in Hyde Park, Chicago.
- NEIS tables and gives workshop on the “nuclear war against renewables” at the IL Renewable Energy Fair.
- NEIS meets with IL legislators on the EPA’s 111d Carbon Rule and nuclear power issues.



NEIS Director Dave Kraft makes the case for the “nuclear war against renewables” at the Illinois Renewable Energy Fair

September

- NEIS meets with IL Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon and staff of the IL EPA on the EPA’s 111d Carbon Rule, HR1146, and nuclear power issues
- Eleven NEIS members participate in the Climate March in New York City a part of the 2000-strong national anti-nuclear contingent.



NEIS marching with 2,000 anti-nukers at the NYC Climate March in September

October

- NEIS meets with representatives from the Governor’s Office, DCEO, and the Attorney General’s office on the EPA 111d Carbon Rule, HR1146, and nuclear issues.
- NEIS gives presentations at Northern IL University in DeKalb, and in Sterling IL on Exelon’s “nuclear war against renewables.”
- NEIS participates in a CAPOW press conference on radiation dangers to waters from fracking.
- Several volunteers table at the Jackson Browne concert in Chicago.

November

- NEIS participates in ICC hearing on the EPA’s 111d Carbon Rule in Chicago.
- NEIS participates in the 3-day national Sierra Nuclear Free Campaign conference in Washington, D.C.
- NEIS, Diné No Nukes, and Sloths against Nuclear State unveil the “Radiation Monitoring Project,” to raise \$15,000 to purchase radiation monitors for reactor and front-line communities nationwide.
- NEIS members visit with 7 members of the IL delegation to Congress in Washington, D.C. on nuclear issues.
- NEIS participates in a work group of the Bi-Partisan Radwaste Committee, in Chicago.
- NEIS appears as a guest on WVON-AM’s “Greenpreneur Show” with Michael Thomas talking about the “nuclear war against renewables.”
- NEIS reps meeting with ICC Chair Doug Scott about the EPA’s 111d Carbon Rule Compliance and HR1146 report issues.

December

- NEIS submits formal comments on the EPA 111d Carbon Rule.
- NEIS attends the Zion ZCAP meeting.

2015 Plans and Programs

- Oppose nuclear industry's "nuclear war against renewables." Oppose Exelon's \$1.6 billion bailout request. Advocate for renewables and efficiency.
- Monitor Zion decommissioning. Codify and require detailed audits, and independent project oversight.
- Oppose the Byron and Braidwood 20-year reactor license extensions.
- Launch Radiation Monitoring Project.
- Oppose recommendations of Blue Ribbon Commission for "consolidated interim storage" of high-level radioactive wastes, and provide testimony and organize events as necessary.
- Continue support for Carbon Free-Nuclear Free Campaign throughout Illinois and the region; oppose inclusion of nuclear in state's EPA 111d Carbon Rule compliance plan. Continue involvement and collaboration with Illinois Climate Table, Sierra Club and EJC. Oppose fracking and tar sands pipelines in state and region.
- Continue opposition to the Nuclear Renaissance, small modular reactors, and reprocessing of "spent" nuclear fuel.
- Monitor and oppose summer NPDES water use variances at Illinois reactors.
- Continue "Know Nukes!" collaboration with CAN-TV of Chicago.
- Establish Illinois Sierra Club Nuclear Free Working Group.

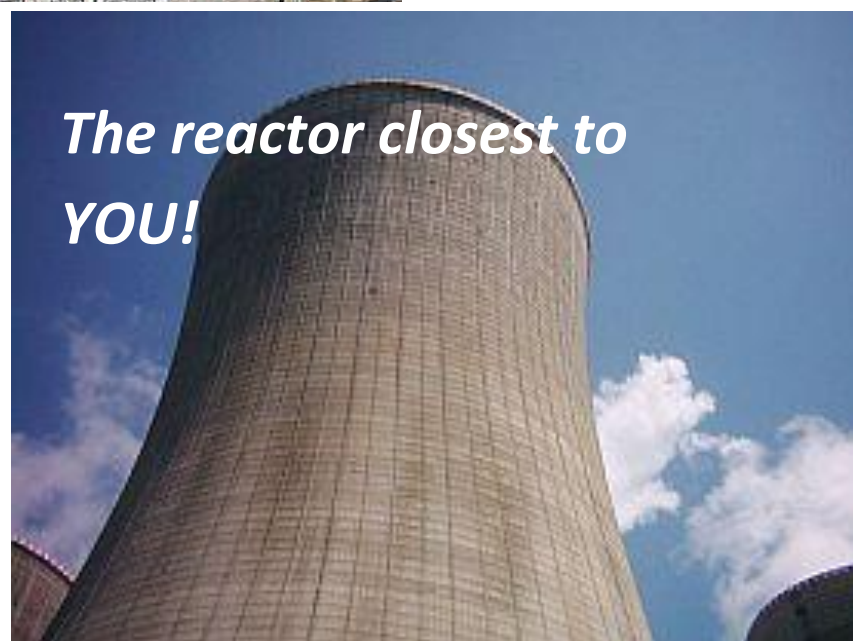
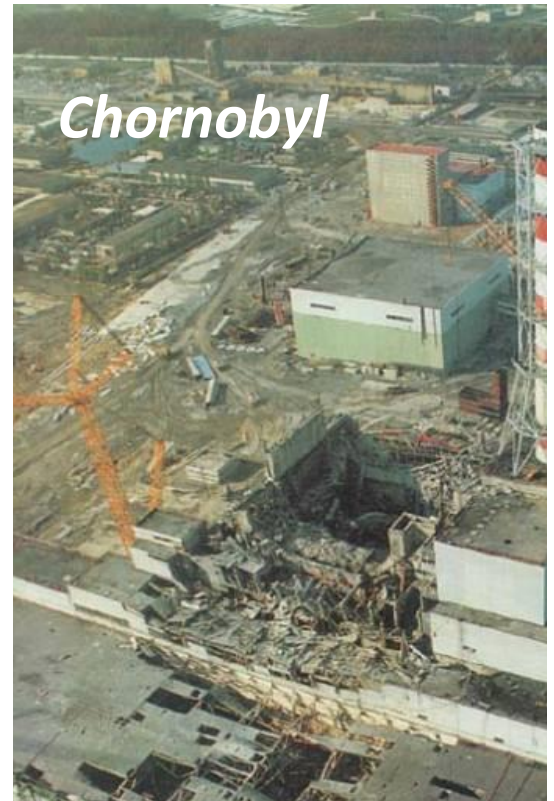
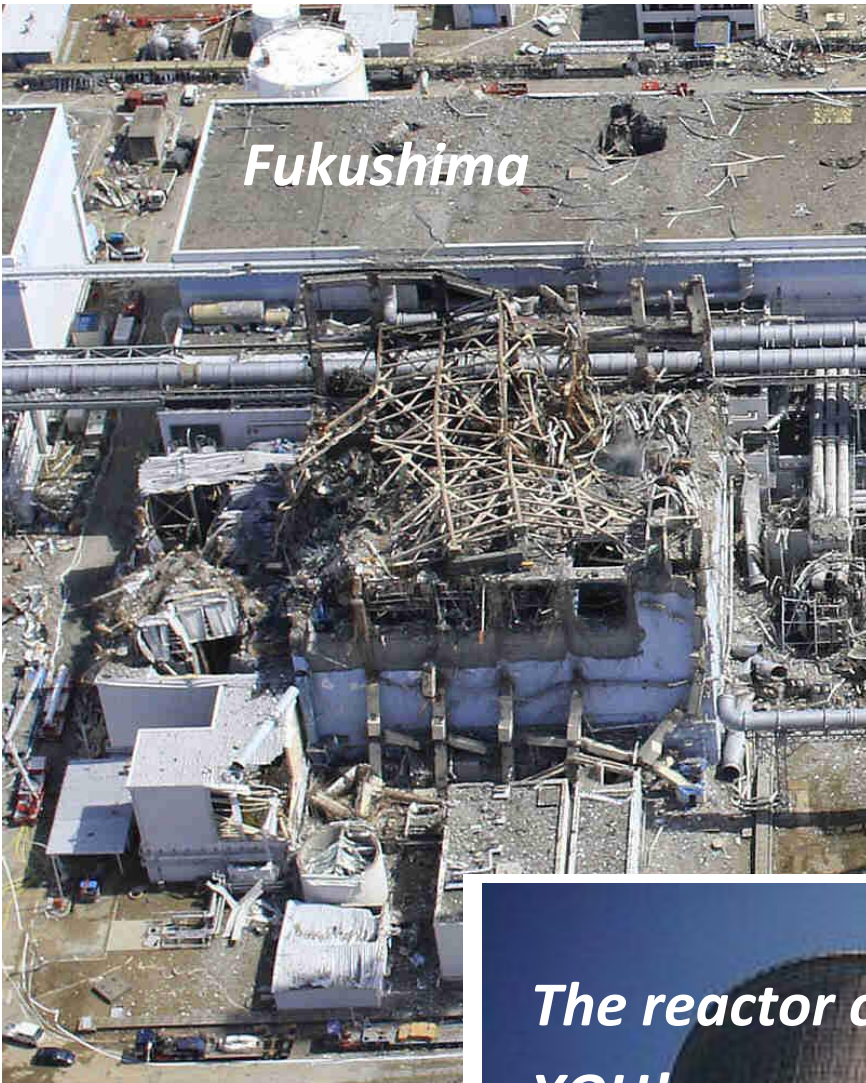
Fundraising & Finances:

- 2014 Income: \$43,948.64
- 2014 Expenses: (\$40,422.82)
- Year-end 2014 assets amounted to \$18,377.95 in cash reserves, plus office assets. \$575 in funds is dedicated funding towards a targeted ad campaign in reactor communities; and the Radiation Monitoring Project.
- While the number of major donors giving more than \$1,000 for the year remained constant, the size of large donations from individuals dropped in amount. This fortunately was made up by two unexpected large donations (one a bequest); and the return of two foundations. The number of Sustaining (>\$150) and Promoting (>\$500) donors dropped slightly from the previous year.
- NEIS added 31 new members to its rolls in 2014.
- Giving using iGive and GoodShop/GoodSearch increased more than 50% over 2013. This is still below potential. The program could easily be increased fourfold. NEIS also earned \$550 from its first participation in Give Local America in May.
- EarthShare Illinois, one of NEIS' major funding sources specializing in workplace giving, changed its affiliation status relative to the National EarthShare organization. This resulted in a one-time major distribution payment to NEIS in 2014 of \$4,229.76 in asset distribution. An appreciable drop in regular distribution amount has been observed by year end as a result of the transition, which is a cause for great concern.

Simple ways to support NEIS....

- "Searching" for safe-energy: make "GoodSearch" your start-up page, and then do your basic web searches using GoodSearch, a Yahoo-based search engine. For the simple, basic searches, it's as good as Google, and earns us 1-cent per search. If our members did 100 searches per day, over a year they would cover more than one month's rent. Sign-up here: <http://www.goodsearch.com/>, and make "Nuclear Energy Information Service" your selected charity.
- If you shop online.... Shop for NEIS at no cost to you! Are you really going to try to say you never order books, DVDs, airfares, gifts, magazines etc. online? If you do, you can earn NEIS significant donations at no cost to you! Sign-up and use iGive at: <http://www.igive.com/welcome/index.cfm>. Your first use online gets us a \$5 donation, plus the donor percentage for your purchase. Remember – if you're not shopping for us, you're shopping for *them*! Subvert the dominant paradigm with your online shopping today!
- Workplace giving.... NEIS is a member of EarthShare Illinois. Acting the way United Way does, EarthShare gets donations for member groups from direct payroll deductions of employees who sign up to make these voluntary contributions. Talk to your personnel manager to see if you have a payroll deduction program, and if NEIS can get EarthShare listed as a recipient. We would also welcome being enrolled in any corporate matching-grant programs your employer may have.
- "Friend" us on Facebook; "tweet" our event announcements on Twitter!

***Three great reasons to oppose nuclear power and
the “Nuclear War on Renewables”...***



If you're a member of NEIS, thank you.

If not, are you going to wait for the next nuclear disaster before joining?