

NEIS 2015:

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

Highlights and Accomplishments



Nuclear Energy Information Service

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Letter to members from NEIS Board

Greetings!

Everyone on the board of NEIS would like to thank you for your continued support of our efforts for a carbon-free, nuclear-free world. NEIS is making a difference in many arenas in the state and the region, as you'll see in the Annual Report. There are two main focus areas we'd like to talk about here: Renewables vs. Nuclear and Nuclear Waste Storage.

Renewable Energy V.S. Exelon Nuclear, and the winner is...

NEIS has reported to our membership in previous annual reports of the fight in our state and the nation between Renewable Energy and Nuclear Power— nuclear power in Illinois being Exelon. While we cannot report a winner as of yet, NEIS is working relentlessly for renewables and against nuclear, with some wins along the way. Exelon and its subsidiary ComEd have adopted an obstructionist strategy to prevent any significant progress on renewable energy in Illinois, especially within the last two years. They are trying to throw up roadblocks to renewable energy, distributed generation, community solar and wind generation. Exelon is also trying to keep its old and economically failing nuclear power plants open.

NEIS, along with many other Renewable Energy supporters, has been effective so far in keeping Exelon from getting a bailout for its reactors from ratepayers that would need legislators' approval first. We still have a long way to go in our fight to keep Exelon and ComEd from crippling renewable energy in Illinois.

Like the old Chinese proverb, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now", it is the same with renewable energy in Illinois. While our state has added some renewable energy over the years, it has not been enough to turn Illinois into a significant renewable energy provider. While other states and countries have built out renewable energy to become a significant portion of their energy supply, Illinois lags far behind, even loosing solar energy businesses and halting the construction of new wind farms. Why is this? The answer is found in Springfield. Legislators in Illinois have consistently taken the "two steps forward, one step back" approach to renewable energy. What we see now in Illinois is the result of failed policy over time. NEIS has been saying that this moment is the best time to 'plant' renewable energy, since it was not done 20 years ago. NEIS is working to help inform legislators and the public of how important it is to move into a renewable energy future for our state so we do not fall even further behind and find ourselves in another 20 years wondering how we got there.

What to do with all that waste?

We are witnessing a change on the federal level regarding proposed solutions to the disposal of nuclear waste. The goal of a permanent geologic repository as mandated by Congress is now morphing to a Presidential plan to gain consent from communities to store the nation's nuclear waste temporarily but long term. NEIS believes there is an ulterior motive for moving nuclear waste out of nuclear power facilities storage and into a handful of 'consenting' communities. This centralized interim storage would support the nuclear industries' goal of reprocessing nuclear fuel and creating new 'next generation' nuclear reactors that would use the reprocessed waste. In fact, a new pro-nuclear group called 'Environmental Progress Illinois' announced its goal to 'Save Illinois' Nuclear Plants". One of the supporters said that she believed the spent fuel of today is the energy of tomorrow and also said she supported next generation nuclear.

Make no mistake—the nuclear industry does not want to just keep the old nuclear facilities running. They want to do so until they can create a nuclear renaissance of reprocessing and new nuclear reactor design. This is bad for the nation and for Illinois. NEIS will do all we can to ensure this never happens!

This year NEIS will be 35 years old. We are proud of the work we've done and continue to do to bring an end to the nuclear era and to usher in the era of renewables. There is much work still to be done as we enter the age of nuclear decommissioning and long-term waste storage. We thank all NEIS members for your ongoing support in helping us to create a carbon-free, nuclear-free world.

Gail Snyder
President

Linda Lewison
Secretary

Dylan Clayton
Treasurer

Dorian Breuer

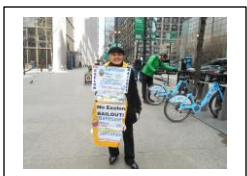
Carol Kurz

Kathleen Rude

Stephanie Bilenko
May 15, 2016

A Special Thank You...

We're sorry to have to say "good bye" to outgoing Board member Carol Kurz, who will be leaving the Board after 6 years of dedicated work. That's Carol on the right, trying to sell people



\$25,000 cupcakes to bail out poor old Exelon. Her intense dedication to NEIS' mission was matched by the high quality of her work, her creative ideas, and the thoroughness of her follow-through on every project she worked on. We're grateful for all the wonderful and generous contributions she made to making the world a little less nuclear; and glad she will now have the time to actually go out and – enjoy Life a bit!
Thank you SO MUCH, Carol! The door is always open to you. Be well, safe travels, and – enjoy!

2015 Highlights & Accomplishments



NEIS members fight Exelon's outrageous \$1.6 billion nuclear bailout demand with a fake bake-sale outside of Exelon HQ, to raise money for the "impoverished" utility.

In Action in 2015:

- NEIS: conducted 34 presentations/briefings, 16 tabling exhibitions, and 12 conferences and meetings; provided 50 briefings and comments to public officials; sent 11 Action Alerts; participated in 119 actions and planning meetings with coalition partners for events.
- NEIS participated in 3 radio/TV interviews; submitted 9 letters to the editor and sent 25 press releases; and assisted members of the media with background materials and sources 3 times.
- NEIS developed/revised 37 literature pieces and 2 PowerPoints on program themes.
- NEIS met with staffers from 1 Congressional Rep and both Senators; Speaker Madigan's legal staff once; and 27 state reps and senators on nuclear issues pertaining to Illinois. NEIS also briefed Council members and staff of the Cities of Chicago, Evanston and Highland Park.
- 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 participated in the Illinois Climate Table, to craft Illinois' energy compliance plans for the EPA's 111d Carbon Rules, and fight Exelon reactor bailout scheme.
- NEIS launched the Radiation Monitoring Project with Diné No Nukes (NM) and Sloths against Nuclear State (NY); raised \$16,875, purchased 15 radiation monitors; conducted first training in Chicago in October.
- NEIS moved its office in December.

January

- NEIS crashes the launch of the Exelon pro-nuclear front group, "Nuclear Matters" with an "Alms for Exelon" faux fundraiser outside the City Club of Chicago luncheon in Chicago.



February

- NEIS co-sponsors two anti-Exelon events with Chicago Area Peace Action (CAPA).
- NEIS monitors the Zion Citizen Action Panel.

March -4th anniversary of Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster

- Memorial event on the 4th anniversary of the Fukushima disaster at the Japanese Consulate.
- NEIS helps enact two city council resolutions against the Canadian "Deep Underground Depository" radwaste facility project.



- NEIS conducts an "Alms for Exelon" Bake-Sale, held outside the Exelon shareholders meeting at Exelon Headquarters, Chicago. \$25,000 cupcakes!



April

- NEIS launches the "Radiation Monitoring Project" with Diné No Nukes and Sloths against Nuclear State on the 29th anniversary of Chernobyl.
- NEIS hosts a presentation by Arnie Gundersen of Fairewinds Energy Education, at Sierra Club office in Chicago.
- NEIS confronts NRC on inadequate decommissioning regulations at public meeting in Zion.



May

- NEIS debates two scientists from Argonne National Lab on the future of nuclear power at the "Just Views" West Suburban Ethical humanist Society -- and wins!
 - NEIS exhibiting at the Homer Glen Earth Day event against the Exelon nuclear bailout scheme.



June

- NEIS tables at the Aurora Green Fest, gaining opposition to the Exelon nuclear bailout.
- NEIS tables at the Midwest Renewable Energy Fair in Wisconsin opposing “Exelon’s War on Renewable Energy.”



- NEIS and Frack-Free Illinois working the crowd in support of the Clean Jobs Bill at the Gay Pride Parade.

July

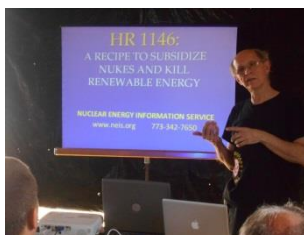
- NEIS concludes GoFundMe fundraising project for the Radiation Monitoring Project on July 16th – the anniversary of the Trinity A-Bomb blast. The RMP raised nearly \$17,000, and was able to purchase 15 radiation monitors for distribution to frontline communities around the U.S.

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 “Exelon’s nuclear war against renewables” at the Illinois Renewable Energy Fair.



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

September

- NEIS marches with 400 others at the People’s Climate March in Chicago.
- NEIS conducts briefings with 4 Illinois State senators on Exelon’s war against renewable energy.



- NEIS invited to conduct a Skype briefing on the reasons to oppose nuclear power for an environmental class at Michigan State University.

October

- NEIS participates in the National Day of Climate Action
- NEIS meeting with two more state senators on Exelon’s war against renewable energy.
- NEIS hosts the first training of the Radiation Monitoring Project, attended by 12 trainees in Chicago, and conducted by Lucas Hixson.



transport issues..

- NEIS invited to be a co-presenter for a NIRS teleconference on Yucca Mt. and radioactive waste

November

- NEIS invited to speak at the international climate march in conjunction with the COP21 Conference taking place in Paris, France.
- NEIS conducts briefing on state energy issues for a staff member of House Speaker Michael Madigan’s office.
- NEIS participates on Great Lakes radiation issues as part of a briefing team with CAPOW for Sen. Mark Kirk’s staff.
- NEIS Board and members participate in a conference sponsored by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists on nuclear power’s role with Climate Change.



December

- NEIS participates in a Rising Tide Chicago action and march against Climate Criminals in conjunction with the COP21 meeting in Paris France.
- NEIS conducts an information briefing on Illinois nuclear issues for the ELPC young professionals group in Chicago.
- NEIS moved its office across the hall to Suite 13. But, it was still a move! Ugh.

2016 Plans and Programs

- Continue opposition to the nuclear industry's "nuclear war against renewables," and Exelon's \$1.6 billion bailout request. Advocate for renewables and efficiency. Work for "just transitions" for communities faced with plant closures.
- Continue monitor Zion decommissioning. Codify detailed audits, and independent project oversight.
- Oppose the Byron and Braidwood 20-year reactor license extensions. Submit comments on LaSalle.
- Conduct Radiation Monitoring Project trainings and fundraising efforts.
- Oppose Blue Ribbon Commission recommendation of "consolidated interim storage" of high-level radioactive wastes. Plan national conference on radwaste and decommissioning in Fall.
- Continue support for Carbon Free-Nuclear Free Campaign throughout Illinois and the region; oppose inclusion of nuclear in Illinois' 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 Nuclear Renaissance, small modular reactors, and spent fuel reprocessing.
- Continue "Know Nukes!" collaboration with CAN-TV of Chicago.
- Continue involvement in national Sierra Nuclear Free Campaign; work to increase IL involvement.

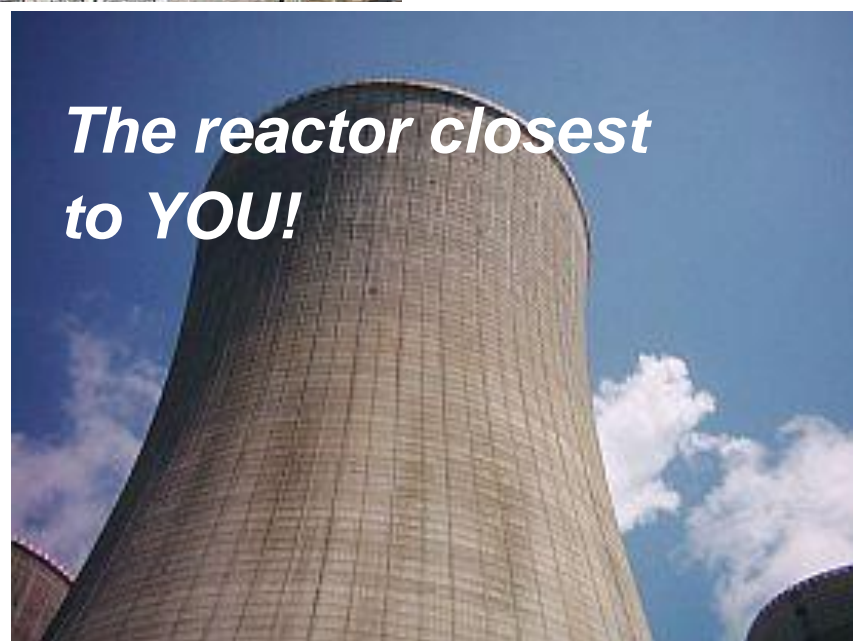
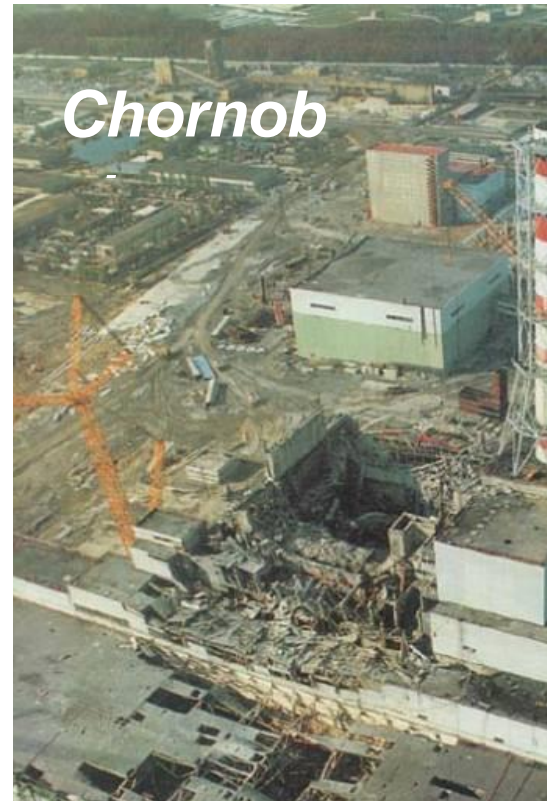
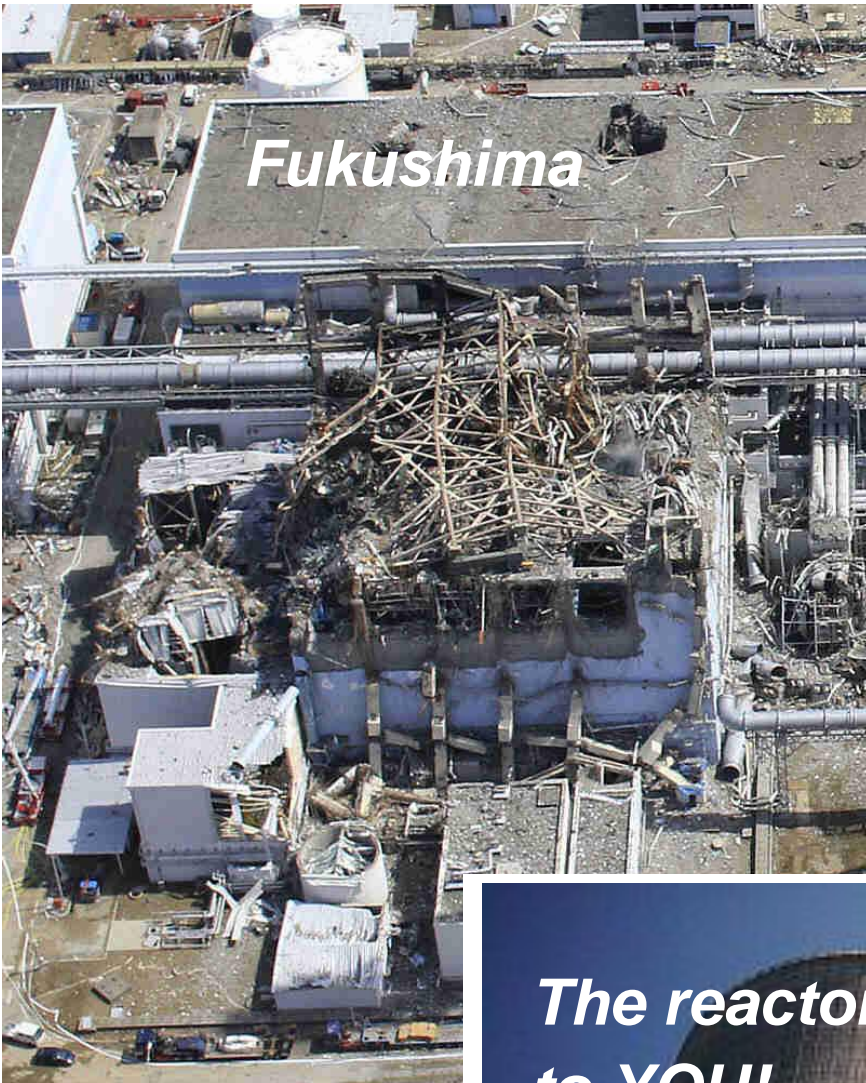
Fundraising & Finances:

- 2015 Income: \$62,048.96
- 2015 Expenses: (\$52,397.13)
- Year-end 2015 assets amounted to \$23,474.25 in cash reserves, plus office assets. \$300 in funds is dedicated funding towards a targeted ad campaign in reactor communities; and \$10,688.58 for 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 was offset by two large grants received for the Radiation Monitoring Project from two foundations. The number of Sustaining (>\$150) donors increased 50% over the previous year, while Promoting Donors stayed the same.
- NEIS added 19 new members to its rolls in 2015, down from 31 the year before.
- Giving using iGive and GoodShop/GoodSearch stayed constant over 2013, but still below potential. The program could easily be increased fourfold. NEIS also earned \$250 from an auto donation.
- Contributions from EarthShare Illinois, one of NEIS' major funding sources, remains well below pre-affiliation levels. This issue has been raised for investigation with the Chicago EarthShare office.
- NEIS is acting as fiscal agent for the Radiation Monitoring Project. Thus a sizable portion of current assets are tied up as dedicated funds available only for RMP purposes. NEIS earns a 10% fee for this service.

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, office supplies, clothes, tickets, 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 at no cost to you. 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?