



Frank Lasee

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR
FIRST SENATE DISTRICT



News Release

For Immediate
Release

For more information, contact;
Robert Kovach 608-266-3512

October 29, 2012

Dominion Energy announces Plan to Decommission Kewaunee Nuclear Power Station

Madison, WI - The Kewaunee Power Plant has recently said they will start with their plans to take the plant off line after they were unable to find a buyer for the last 18 months.

State Senator Frank Lasee said he was sad to learn of Dominion's announcement and the impact it would have on the families of workers and throughout the community.

"One of the hardest parts about the whole closure is the fact that the plant is running so well. Dominion has said multiple times that the dedication and expertise of the employees has been outstanding, and that their decision to close the plant was not as a result of the workers." Senator Lasee said. If the plant closes for good, 650 workers from Brown, Manitowoc, and Kewaunee will have to find new jobs.

Senator Lasee believes nuclear energy will be an important part of making sure we have enough electricity in a less costly, safe, and environmentally friendly way. The Kewaunee Power Plant has a sterling safety and environmental record. Kewaunee Power Plant is not part of the problem; it is part of the solution.

The two main reasons the plant is closing is because Dominion wasn't able to buy the Point Beach Nuclear plant in 2007 (allowing them to share some of the staff between the two plants), and the low cost of natural gas has made nuclear energy less competitive in the current energy market.

Dominion's current plan is to run the plant at full capacity until May of 2013. At that time, approval from MISO, the organization that manages the Midwest's power grid, will be required to full take the plant off line.

Senator Lasee said he will continue to work with state agencies and the Governor's office, local and federal officials, as well as seek possible buyers for the plant in an attempt to keep the Kewaunee Nuclear Plant online, and help families and workers make the transition if the plant does close.