

8-5-25 16a.1.

Woodbury County Board of Supervisors, August 5, 2025 (Rita Iversen, Sioux City)

Today I'm discussing information from previous meetings.

1. The US has 92 nuclear plants. INCORRECT. The US has 53 ACTIVE plants and 41 CLOSED plants. Omaha and Sioux Falls closed their plants.
2. US nuclear plants are safe. INCORRECT. There have been 57 DOCUMENTED nuclear plant accidents – human error or equipment failure.
3. The federal government will put a plant here, even if the zoning isn't finished. INCORRECT. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is the FEDERAL agency that licenses nuclear plants. Their website states: "A new plant must have correct zoning requirements and permits, be supported by the public and pass an environmental study. Even if the zoning is correct, large public objections to the power plant can stop the process."
4. We can purchase a small modular reactor or SMR. INCORRECT. Russia is the ONLY country, in the world, with a FUNCTIONING SMR.

Concerns about SMRs.

SMRs use uranium.

Uranium waste is radioactive for ⁴1.5 Billion years.

Expensive up-front costs. SMR's PREDICTED cost is 9 BILLION dollars.

The public will have higher electric bills to cover the SMR cost.

Iowa's severe weather – tornados and floods -- impact safety.

The Missouri River is affected– dead fish, a harmed ecosystem.

People move away or avoid moving here.

Property values decline within a 50 mile radius.

Thefts of uranium happen in the US.

Terrorists use uranium to create weapons.

If an accident happens:

Public health is impacted in 15 Siouxland counties.

Radioactive particles land on farmers' fields.

Radioactive particles travel south on the river.

I asked people in civic groups how they felt about having a nuclear plant in Siouxland. 2 voted yes. 76 voted no.

Good news: Norway SUCCESSFULLY uses generators in their rivers and lakes to create 88% of the COUNTRY'S electricity. **Wind, sunlight, and water are FREE!**