

PETITION RULE PRM 30-62 500 (64FR 57785)

January 1, 2000 304 Manor Drive Sautee, GA 30571

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Secretary of the Commission U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

To the NRC,

I have followed nuclear issues for a number of years and have a fairly good layman's understanding of both the technical and the political problems involved. I am very concerned about deregulation of the nation's electrical utilities and the possible effect it may have on our nuclear power plants.

I have learned of two new proposed NRC rulings under consideration, one involving workers hours and the other involving whistle-blowers protection. I support both.

We now know falling asleep at the wheel causes at least as many accidents as driving under the influence. We certainly don't want nuclear operators falling asleep on the job.

I have met with nuclear whistle-blowers and heard personally of the hostility they face when they report mismanagement or cover-up at a nuclear plant. This should never happen.

For these personal reasons, I urge the NRC to tighten all controls and standards at the nation's nuclear plants. These are not ordinary commercial businesses that can be allowed to cut corners or hide their mistakes as others sometimes do. It is the NRC's job to see that it doesn't happen.

Sincerely,

Joan O. King

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PDR PR 30-62