

50-321/366



# Toombs-Montgomery Chamber of Commerce

*"Home of the Vidalia Sweet Onion"*

April 12, 2000

Mr. C.I. Grimes  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D C., 20555

Dear Sir:

As you are aware, an application was filed with the NRC requesting that the operating terms for Plant Hatch be extended for an additional twenty years. I am writing in support of this request, and to let you know how important this extension is to the health of our community. This office has long supported the workers and management at Plant Hatch. In turn Georgia Power has been and continues to be one of this community's greatest assets. Plant Hatch is a solid corporate citizen.

Plant Hatch started construction in the early seventies and has been a part of the community make up since that time, providing many valuable jobs for the citizens of this area. More important, it is the engine that provided the momentum for the economic growth that we continue to experience today.

A large number of employees reside in Toombs County, although the Plant is located in Appling County. We do not receive the tax base for the plant, none the less; the high skilled jobs have provided income to build a very dynamic economy in Toombs County, as well as the surrounding counties. A quick drive through Vidalia should convince any visitor of the impact the employees of Plant Hatch have on our economy.

I know many of the managers and employees at the plant and am convinced of their professionalism and dedication to a safe work environment and safe plant.

Thank you for considering these thoughts as you begin the review process.

Sincerely,

Bill Mitchell  
President  
Toombs-Montgomery Chamber of Commerce



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