

J. EDWARD TYSON

President

May 8, 2000

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Document Control Desk Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

I am writing in support of the application by Southern Nuclear Operating Company to renew the operating licenses for the Edwin I. Hatch Nuclear Plant for an additional 20 years.

As a 30-year resident of Vidalia, I can speak from personal experience of the enormous positive impact that Plant Hatch has on this area. Having served as Chairman of the Toombs County Development Authority and President of the Chamber of Commerce, I can attest to the integral role Plant Hatch has played in the economic growth of Toombs County and the surrounding area.

Perhaps even more important is the positive impact the men and women who work at Plant Hatch have on this community. Whether it's generously supporting local charities or providing leadership for civic and community organizations, Plant Hatch employees are dedicated to making our community a better place to live.

Plant Hatch is a good neighbor to Toombs County. It is an environmentally friendly source of electricity that is vital to the continued economic prosperity of our state. I support Plant Hatch in its application for license renewal.

Sincerely,

J. Edward Tyśon

President

Darby Bank & Trust Co.

JET:nm



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