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Rules and Directives

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Add=T. Johnson (TCJ)

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Mr. Lesar,

I am writing to tell you why I think the proposed uranium-enrichment facility in Hartsville, TN is a horrible danger to the surrounding community. Everyone knows that the radioactivity produced by fissionable uranium isotopes is a mutagen and carcinogen. The great chemist and physicist Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize for her work with uranium radioactivity, then promptly died of cancer. Ask children in Belarus, former USSR if uranium is dangerous. Thyroid cancer rates there increased a hundred-fold after the Chernobyl disaster in 1986. As a graduate student in molecular biology, I have seen the mutagenic effect of radioactivity on other organisms. I shudder to think of the Nashville Basin being exposed to such a treatment. And if a dam fails on the Cumberland River, or a uranium-bearing truck wrecks or train derails, that is what will happen. With the constant threat of international terrorism, having enriched uranium upstream and upwind of so many innocent citizens is an unacceptable risk. Please respect the lives of Tennesseans by not allowing this proposed facility to become a reality.

Sincerely,
Jack Powers

Jack Powers
925 Hillside Dr.
Cookeville TN 38501

NASHVILLE TN 372
PM
29 OCT
2002

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Michael Lesar, chief
Rules, Review, and Directives Branch
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