



Houston County Schools

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Kenneth Lord, Superintendent

December 16, 2003

Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint
Washington, DC. 20555
ATTN: P.T. Kuo

It has come to my attention that Southern Nuclear Company subsidiary is in the process of applying for license renewal. This application seeks to renew license for twenty additional years for Farley Units I and 2. The success of this application would provide a great deal of stability for our school system.

We are dependent on the Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant for a number of reasons. Financially speaking it would be almost impossible for us to operate without the tax revenue from ad-valorem taxes paid by Plant Farley. Over one half of all local ad valorem dollars come from this one source. Considering that Alabama ranks dead last in funding for public schools puts this in an even clearer perspective.

Our school system serves over 6300 students in nine different school sites. Plant Farley provides a stable source of jobs for many of our parents. This gives us a unique blend of local parents and parents bringing with them different ideas and a strong work ethic. There is not a community in our county that has not reaped the benefits of employment at Plant Farley.

I am continually amazed at the high percentage of Plant Farley parents who volunteer their time to help in all aspects of our school programs. This invaluable gift of time and labor helps fill a void that is so important to the total school program. Our students benefit greatly from gifts and grants of equipment that we receive from Plant Farley.

A concern with any nuclear facility is one of safety. It is reassuring to know the priority places on safety by Plant Farley. Our school system in conjunction with Houston County Emergency Management Association constantly modifies safety procedures that apply to any situation. The support and training from Plant Farley is more than adequate to keep us well prepared.

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Please count Houston County Schools as being in full support of Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant in obtaining a license renewal as superintendent I feel this is vital to the continued success not only of our school system, but our county as well.

If I can be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to call. I will gladly furnish additional information on request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth Lord". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Kenneth Lord, Superintendent
Houston County Schools

KL/nw