

JOHN J. DUNCAN
2D DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

117 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
PHONE: (AREA CODE 202) 225-5435

COMMITTEE
WAYS AND MEANS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 1, 1974

COUNTIES:
BLOUNT
CAMPBELL
CLAIBORNE
KNOX
LOUDON
MCMINN
MONROE
SCOTT
UNION

Congressional Liaison
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Sir:

Attached is a self-explanatory letter from my constituent,
Jordy Ketron of Athens, Tennessee.

I shall appreciate your checking into this request and
advising me of your findings as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,



JOHN J. DUNCAN
Member of Congress

JJD/nt
Enclosure

DR 7753

Rec'd Off. Dir. of Reg.
Date 10/3/74
Time 11:30

RECEIVED

1974

JOHN J. DUNCAN

1218 Miami st

Athens Tenn.

Sept 22, 1974

The Honorable John J. Duncan
117 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Honorable Mr. Duncan:

I am writing you about the atomic reactors being shut down. As you probably know 21 of the 50 atomic reactors in the U. S. are being closed down because there were leaks in the cooling system. I live within 25 miles of the site for a new atomic energy plant, and I am worried. If something happens I would not want to be here. Please try to use your influence to keep them from building it.

Sincerely yours,
Gordy Ketron

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE
DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 23 1974

RECEIVED

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1974

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Athens Ga

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SECRET

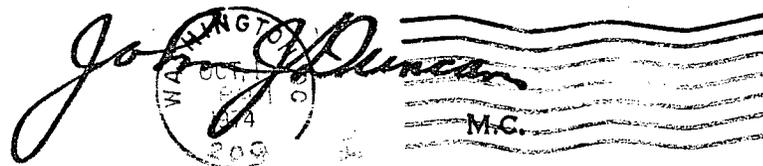
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SEP 23 1974

SECRET

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Congressional Liaison
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

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House of Representatives

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October 1, 1974

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Member of Congress

JJD/nt
Enclosure

Rev'd. Off. of Dir.
of Licensing
Date 10/4/74
Time 2:52 pm

Rec'd Off. Dir. of Reg.
Date 10/3/74
Time 11:30

FROM REP. JOHN J. DUNCAN (TENN.)	DATE OF DOCUMENT 10/1/74	DATE RECEIVED 10/2/74	CONTROL NUMBER 54229
	SUSPENSE DATE 10/10	FILE CODE	
TO OCL	CLASSIFICATION Series: U Copy _____ of _____	REPLY DATES Acknowledge 4 10/3 Interim _____ Final _____	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Handling
DESCRIPTION: LTR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Other		PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>DIV./OFFICE DIRECTOR</u> <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL MANAGER <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> ASST. GENERAL MANAGER _____	
ENCL. LTR FM JOHN DUNCAN, ATHENS, TENN., RE A NEW ATOMIC ENERGY PLANT TO BE BUILT NEAR HIM		REMARKS:	
ENCLOSURES LTR FM KETRON, TENN., DTD 9/22/74			
REFERRED TO	DATE	RECEIVED BY	DATE
REG.	10/3		
O'NEILL conc.	10/18		
OGM ADMIN UNIT FOR DISPATCH SIGNED GIAMBUSSO DTD. 10/18/74		10/18/74 YDR	
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GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL
 U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

John J. Duncan (Tenn.)

CONTROL NUMBER 7753

DATE OF DOCUMENT

10-1-74

ION COMPLETION DEADLINE

10-11-74

OCR

ACTION PROCESSING DATES

Acknowledged

Interim Reply

Find 5/ Giambusso 10/18/74

PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF:

Chairman

Director of Regulation

Giambusso

DESCRIPTION Ltr. Original Copy Other

REMARKS

Encl. letter from Jordy Ketron, Athens, Tenn., re a new atomic energy plant to be built near him.

54229

REFERRED TO	DATE	IS NOTIFICATION TO THE JCAS RECOMMENDED?
Giambusso f/action	10-4-74	No <i>9/27/74</i>
<i>Hutton</i>	<i>10/4</i>	Cys: Case PDR 50-390 50-391 LPDR
<i>Moore</i>	<i>10/14</i>	
<i>W. Niel</i>	<i>10/19</i>	

*10/17/74
5:50 PM
VPC*

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DIRECTOR OF REGULATION COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL

Form HQ-32 (1-73) USAEC

John J. Duncan (Tenn)

CONTROL NUMBER 7753

FILE LOCATION
ACTION COMPLETION DEADLINE 10-11-74
PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: <input type="checkbox"/> Chairman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director of Regulation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Giambusso

OCR

DATE OF DOCUMENT 10-1-74
ACTION PROCESSING DATES Acknowledged _____ Interim Reply _____ Final _____

DESCRIPTION: Ltr. Original Copy Other

Encl. letter from Jordy Ketrone, Athens, Tenn., re a new atomic energy plant to be built near him.

54229

REMARKS

*10/1/74
D. S. P.
Mc*

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Giambusso f/action	10-4-74	No <i>9/11/74</i>
<i>Hutton</i>	<i>10/4</i>	Crs. Case PDR 50-390 50-391 LPDR
<i>Moore</i>	<i>10/8</i>	
<i>H. Niel</i>	<i>10/9</i>	

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DIRECTOR OF REGULATION COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL

Form HQ-32 (1-73) USAEC

Docket file

50-370 ✓
50-391

OCT 18 1974

Honorable John J. Duncan
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Duncan:

I am pleased to respond to your letter dated October 1, 1974, which has been referred to this office for reply. Your letter transmitted a letter to you from Jordy Ketron dated September 22, 1974, and requested advice on our findings.

I assume the closest nuclear plant to Mr. Ketron's residence is the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant being built by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), which is approximately 18 miles from Athens, Tennessee.

The event to which Mr. Ketron apparently refers is the planned examination of all operating boiling water reactors (BWRs) to ascertain if cracks exist in a 4-inch bypass line similar to those observed at the Dresden Nuclear Power Station in Illinois. At Dresden, after a containment sump monitor was activated, the plant was shut down. The location of the leak was determined, the cracks repaired, and the unit is now ready to return to operation. There was no significant release of radioactivity due to this occurrence, and the health and safety of the public was not endangered. Other BWRs have since been checked and some have exhibited similar cracks. All BWRs will be carefully examined within the next several weeks and appropriate repairs made.

Several points should be made in regard to Mr. Ketron's concern. First of all, Watts Bar is not a BWR, but a pressurized water reactor (PWR). There is no evidence thus far that the kinds of cracks seen in BWRs would occur in PWRs. If they did, however, similar warnings and protective systems exist to minimize the problem and ensure the safety of the public. Water level sensors and radioactivity monitors would recognize that a leak existed and cause the reactor to be shut down. The released radioactivity, if any, would be contained within the steel containment building. If the magnitude of the leak was such that supplementary cooling of the reactor was required, several redundant systems would automatically be activated to ensure safe reactor shutdown.

Nuclear power plants have had an excellent safety record to date. No member of the general public has ever been injured by radiation from an accident at a licensed nuclear power reactor. A good part of this is due to the philosophy used in the design of these plants. It is a multi-layered safety concept which requires high quality in the design and

OFFICE ➤						
SURNAME ➤						
DATE ➤						

Honorable John J. Duncan

-2-

construction of plants, the provision of multiple safety systems and physical barriers to prevent the release of radioactivity to the environment, in the unlikely event of an accident, and the extensive testing and inspection of plant operations.

I hope this information is responsive to your constituent's concerns. If any additional information is required, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

A. Giambusso

A. Giambusso, Deputy Director
for Reactor Projects
Directorate of Licensing

DISTRIBUTION:

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TAPE 15B

*with changes
as noted*

OFFICE	LWR 2-2	LWR 2-2	AD LWR	DD	OCR	
SURNAME	HSilver:ng	KKniel	VAMoore	AGiambusso		
DATE	10/10/74	10/10/74	10/10/74	10/16/74	10/18/74	BW