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November 21, 1995

Shirley Ann Jackson, Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Ms. Jackson:

I am writing to ask you to deny a permit to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to start up its Watts Bar Nuclear Plant. I understand the NRC has said it will rule on the permit in about three weeks.

With the TVA already deep in debt from construction of the Watts Bar plant, and based on the experience of a number of other nuclear power plants, it seems to me that the start-up and costs of maintenance will lead to a losing situation for taxpayers throughout the nation who will be asked to shoulder the burden of bailing out a TVA bankruptcy. In these times of working to balance the federal budget, I think the government can ill afford – either fiscally or politically – such a disaster.

In addition, I am concerned about the fact that this particular plant is unsafe, as employees of TVA continue to point out. And I am concerned about the dangers of another high-level nuclear waste pit the operation of this plant would necessitate.

May I have a response as to your views and the commission's findings?

Sincerely yours,



Martha A. Zinn

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