

January 29, 1995

Chief, Rules Review & Directives Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

To the Office of the Chief,

Please suspend activity for continuation of the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant. Please take a closer look at the high cost of disposal of spent nuclear fuel rods and materials contaminated in the course of operating a nuclear reactor. The extreme radioactivity and therefore the extremely long half-life of these radioactive materials, and their contaminants, will, in my opinion, undermine any immediate financial gain in investing in a nuclear power plant. In reviewing reports about nuclear power plant proposals, these costs are never addressed, and yet they are impossible to dismiss.

As a country that is moving from coal, to oil, to nuclear power generated electricity, we have somehow lost an entire generation that could be addressing alternative methods of producing electricity, including thermal, solar, and wind. At one time our government encouraged research and development into these fields of research. It is time to begin again, and to turn away from the financial black-holes of the nuclear power plant industry.

Sincerely,



Susan Jata

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EPA POLICY STATEMENTS ON NOISE LEVELS

Maximum noise levels EPA has identified to protect the public health and welfare

HEARING LOSS	LEVEL (at ear)	AREA
Hearing Loss	$L_{eq(24)} < 70 \text{ dB}$	All areas
Outdoor activity interference and annoyance	$L_{dn} < 55 \text{ dB}$	Outdoors in residential areas and farms and other outdoor areas where people spend widely varying amounts of time and other places in which quiet is a basis for use.
	$L_{eq(24)} < 55 \text{ dB}$	Outdoor areas where people spend limited amounts of time, such as school yards, playgrounds, etc.
Indoor activity interference and annoyance	$L_{dn} < 45 \text{ dB}$	Indoor residential areas
	$L_{eq(24)} < 45 \text{ dB}$	Other indoor areas with human activities such as schools, etc.

SOURCE: Ref. 5, p. 3.*

Explanation:

- $L_{eq(24)}$ represents the sound energy averaged over a 24-hour period while L_{dn} represents the L_{eq} with a 10 dB nighttime weighting.
- The hearing loss level identified here represents annual averages of the daily level. (These are energy averages, not to be confused with arithmetic averages.)

*References are listed on page 1.