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President/CEO

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2/21/08  
73 FR 9604  
(45)

To: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

From: Goodrich A. Rogers, President & CEO

*Goodrich A. Rogers*

Date: April 3, 2008

Subject: Public Hearing

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2008 APR 16 PM 1:33

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My name is Goodrich A. Rogers and I live here in Jackson County and have lived here for almost 20 years. I live within sight of the Bellefonte Cooling Towers (approximately 5 miles).

I am here today representing the Jackson County EDA & IDB Board of directors. These boards have unanimously passed resolutions encouraging the construction of a new nuclear power plant at the Bellefonte site.

We are here today to encourage the NRC to grant TVA a COL to build two new Westinghouse AP 1000 reactors on this TVA site. We are in favor of this for several reasons.

1. It will be the largest economic development project ever in Jackson County and we would like to have many of our people work there in the construction business and also in the plant once it is constructed. We know that there will be approximately 2500 construction jobs and 800 permanent jobs. We also know that these jobs will be high paying jobs and highly skilled jobs. We are optimistic that many of the ~~7000~~ <sup>7050</sup> people who leave Jackson County every day to work in the surrounding area will be glad to save time and money by working in their home county. We know too that these jobs can really enhance the quality of life for these families. My co-worker's husband is an assistant unit operator at Brown's Ferry Nuclear and we have seen first hand how their lifestyle has improved as a result of him taking this job. Unfortunately he, like many of our nuclear operators, has to drive to Brown's Ferry, Watts Bar, or Sequoya to work in their chosen field. We want to bring him and many others home.

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M. Ford (MAH2)*

2. We have a corps of workers across North Alabama and Tennessee who are experienced and skilled workers for both the construction trades and the actual operation of a power plant. In fact, Jackson County is within 125 miles of three TVA operating nuclear power plants. We feel like the Tennessee Valley Corridor between Oak Ridge, TN and Huntsville, AL is a high tech corridor and having a new nuclear power plant will enhance this.
3. The North Alabama Industrial Development Association (NAIDA) territory in North Alabama is the fastest growing area of this state. The land area is 16% of Alabama and this area accounted for 35% of the new jobs in the last several years. We need the base load power generated by two new reactors to sustain this growth. Low cost reliable electricity is a very large factor in this economic growth. We also know that Base Realignment And Closure (BRAC) is locating approximately 4,500 new jobs and approximately 4,500 new contractor jobs; bringing many more families to the valley.
4. One of our primary missions in Economic Development is to assist local industries. Jackson County and North Alabama still has a strong industrial base. Approximately 16% of our workforce is involved with manufacturing as apposed to 8-9% nationwide. We must continue to provide a competitive and reliable source of electricity to retain these existing industries and remain competitive. Our power distributors will tell you that we need the additional base load power right now.

I am handing in a copy of my remarks, resolutions, commuting pattern data, and remarks from a local businessmen and a radiologist.

Thank you for allowing me to speak to you today.