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February 10, 2009

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch

Division of Administrative Service

Office of Administration

Mailstop TWB-05-B-01-M

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington D.C. 20555-0001

Comanche.COLEIS@nrc.gov

Dear Chief of Rules and Directives Branch,

I attended the Public meeting held in Glen Rose Jan 6 to discuss the environmental scoping process. My primary environmental impact concerns deal with water. Specifically:

- The amount of surface water required for cooling. (33 billion gallon/year)
- The amount of evaporation rate, taking 18 billions gallons per year out of the current fresh water system
- The impact on the immediate environment having 18 billion gallons of water vapor released yearly
- The impact on the water flow in the Brazos River downstream of Lake Granbury
- The quality of the water in Lake Granbury
- The indirect impacts on the major aquifers in the region---Paluxy and Trinity.

Further, I request to see an analysis of water use per kilowatt hour produced of the proposed new reactors and the cost of this power if Luminiant had to pay current wholesale water rates.

Attached is a copy of a letter I sent to our local papers. A hard copy of this will follow in the mail

Sincerely,

Karen Richardson

Z-RIDS=ADM-03 Cold= C. Smith (CLS2)

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January 24, 2009 Dear Editor,

The proposed new reactors at Commanche Peak promises to be a tremendous and timely economic boost for our county. As tempting as this sounds, the benefits fail when compared to the unacceptable water loss.

Here are a few shocking statistics about the proposed Comanche Peak reactors water use.

33 billion gallons will be withdrawn from Lake Granbury per year. Of that water, 18 billion (18,000,000,000) gallons will evaporate, with the remaining 15 billion gallons returning to Lake Granbury. NOTE: These figures are in the application at the library and were printed in last week's Bosque County News.

To help me put 18 billion gallons of water into a perspective I could understand, I did a few calculations.

Roughly a cubic foot of water is 7.5 gallons. 18 billion gallons is 2,400,000,000 (2.4 billion) cubic feet. This amounts to just over 55,000 acre feet of water per year evaporated—gone for generations. Picture 55,000 acres covered with one foot of water.

Do double check for yourselves and figure what 18 billion gallons of water means to you.

Somervell County is just under 120,000 acres.....and Lake Granbury only holds 136,823 acre feet according to the Brazos River Authority website. 55.000 acre feet would be 40% of the Lake Granbury evaporated yearly <a href="https://www.brazos.org">www.brazos.org</a>

If you think this will not impact Somervell County water, just ask someone who depends on the Brazos for agriculture, recreational business, tourism, etc. Groundwater will also be impacted as many current Lake Granbury water customers will turn to our declining Aquifers to meet their water needs.

Money or Water? Thank you for allowing me to share my opinion,

Karen Richardson

Note: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is accepting public comments regarding environmental impact concerns until Feb. 17, 2009
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