

MAR 5 1974

Docket Nos. 50-259, 50-260
50-296, 50-438
and 50-439

Mrs. Merle T. Englebert
10105 Todd Mill Road, S.E.
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Dear Mrs. Englebert:

We are pleased to respond to your letter of February 11, 1974 to the Director for Reactor Projects stating your opposition of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Bellefonte Nuclear Plant, the Browns Ferry Plant, and all other nuclear plants.

We recognize that many members of the general public, like you, have the opinion that too many nuclear power plants are being built. We respect that opinion, but do not share it. We believe the nuclear power plants we are licensing are safe.

The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 requires consideration of those measures necessary for protection of the health and safety of the public. To carry out this responsibility, the Atomic Energy Commission conducts a detailed review of all applications for licenses to construct and operate nuclear power plants. The purpose of this detailed review, as required by the Atomic Energy Act, is to assure that the proposed facilities can be built and operated safely at the proposed locations, and that all structures, systems, and components important to safety will be designed to withstand the effects of accidents, without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

The safety standards and criteria established by the Commission for review of applications for nuclear power plants include provisions for conservative design and operating margins and for redundancy of components and systems to minimize the probability of an accident occurring and the potential consequences to the public if one should occur. Thus, although the operation of nuclear power plants is not completely risk-free, it is the function of the Regulatory staff of the Commission, through the licensing process, to assure that applicants and licensees take all actions necessary to assure that the risk is extremely low. It is in this regard that each applicant for a license to construct

and operate a nuclear power plant is required to submit for Commission approval plans for coping with emergencies so that in the unlikely event that an emergency situation should occur, appropriate measures will be taken to protect public health and safety.

For the convenience of members of the public, a Local Public Document Room (PDR) has been established at the Scottsboro Public Library, 1002 South Broad Street, Scottsboro, Alabama for the Bellefonte Plant, and at the Athens Public Library, South and Forrest, Athens, Alabama for the Browns Ferry Plant. Copies of the complete application and of all documents and correspondence will be filed in the above PDR's as well as in the Commission's Public Document Room in Washington, D. C.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Voss A. Moore

Voss A. Moore, Assistant Director
for Light Water Reactors, Group 2
Directorate of Licensing

DISTRIBUTION:

- AEC PDR (5)
- PDR (5)
- Jockets (5)
- L Reading
- RP Reading
- LWR 2-3 Reading
- AGiambusso
- VAMoore
- MGroff (L-501)
- EHughes (w/cy of incoming)
- AFerguson
- DDavis
- EGoulbourne (w/cy of incoming) (2)
- ASchwencer
- LWR 1 & 2 BCs
- HSmith
- MWilliams

OFFICE >	x7886/LWR 2-3	L:LWR 2-3	L:C/LWR 2-3	L:ADLWB 2	
SURNAME >	EGoulbourne:cjb	DKDavis	ASchwencer	VAMoore	
DATE >	3/1/74	3/1/74	3/1/74	3/1/74	