

THAD COCHRAN  
MISSISSIPPI

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 4, 1979

Mr. Carlton C. Kammerer  
Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

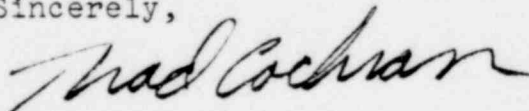
Dear Mr. Kammerer:

I am enclosing a copy of correspondence that I received from Donald C. Lutken, president of Mississippi Power and Light Company.

I would appreciate your full consideration of the effect the closing of nine nuclear power plants will have on the availability of power during the peak summer season.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



THAD COCHRAN  
U. S. Senator

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Telegram

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PMS HONCRABLE THAD COCHRAN, U.S. SENATE

WASHINGTON DC 20510

WE HAVE LEARNED THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION IS CONSIDERING CLOSING THE 9 OPERATING NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS WITH BABCOCK AND WILCOX PRESSURIZED WATER REACTORS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE THE ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ONE AT RUSSELLVILLE ARKANSAS WHICH IS PART OF THE MIDDLE SOUTH POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM. LOSS OF THIS 836 MEGAWATT UNIT WILL REDUCE OUR SEMPER PEAK MARGIN TO LESS THAN 1 PERCENT, AN UNACCEPTABLY LOW MARGIN. THIS ASSURES OUR INABILITY TO MEET LOAD THIS SUMMER. THE FACT THAT ANOTHER 6200 MW OF CAPACITY WILL BE LOST IF THE OTHER 8 PLANTS MEANS THAT PURCHASE POWER WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT ANY PRICE. THE LOSS OF THE ARKANSAS UNIT IS THE EQUIVALENT OF 800,000 BARRELS OF OIL PER MONTH IN ADDITIONAL IMPORTS. THE CURRENT COST OF IMPORTED RESIDUAL OIL IS \$14 PER BARREL. PLEASE INTERCEDE URGENTLY WITH THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES TO PREVENT THIS NEEDLESS AND HIGHLY INFLATIONARY ACTION.

DONALD C LUTKEN PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, MISSISSIPPI POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY

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