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MAY 4 1970

Mrs. David Jacobson
Route 3 Box 294
Russellville, Arkansas 72801

Dear Mrs. Jacobson:

It is a pleasure to reply to your letter of April 17, 1970, concerning the Arkansas Nuclear One facility. Prior to issuing a construction permit for this facility, we performed a careful and detailed review of the plant design and the site to assure that it could be constructed and operated at this location without undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

In its application for a construction permit, Arkansas Power and Light Company proposed a circular "exclusion area" for the facility (with the reactor at the center) having a radius of 0.65 miles, or about 1 1/3 miles in diameter. The "exclusion area" for a nuclear facility is defined by 10 CFR 100.3 (a) of the Code of Federal Regulations. Basically, it is the area immediately surrounding the reactor in which the reactor licensee (in this case Arkansas Power and Light Company) has the authority to determine all activities, including the exclusion or removal of personnel and property therefrom. Residence within the exclusion area is normally prohibited. The required size of this area is not fixed, per se, but is dependent upon the design of the facility and characteristics of the site so as to assure that in the event of an accident the radiation dose to any individual beyond this distance would not exceed prescribed limits.

During our review of the Arkansas application, we determined that the exclusion area proposed by the applicant was satisfactory for this facility and that Arkansas Power and Light Company had the required authority over this land. Actually, the land owned by Arkansas Power and Light Company extends slightly beyond this area.

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Prior to operation of the plant, Arkansas Power and Light will have to submit a final safety analysis report in support of an application for an operating license. At that time we will make another review and evaluation of the safety of the final, as-built plant. This continuing review process and other aspects of nuclear power plants and their safety are discussed in the enclosed booklet, which I hope you will find of interest.

If we can be of any further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Peter A. Morris

Peter A. Morris, Director
Division of Reactor Licensing

Enclosure:
Atomic Power Safety

bcc w/o encl:
P. A. Morris, DRL
R. C. DeYoung, DRL
K. R. Goller, DRL
R. A. Birkel, DRL

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