

JAN 14 1975

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
POOR QUALITY PAGES

50-313

Honorable John Paul Hammerschmidt
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Hammerschmidt:

This is in response to your December 20 communication forwarding a letter from Ms. Peggy Standridge. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on her concerns about the safety of nuclear power plants.

The plant referred to in her letter is Arkansas Power and Light Company's Arkansas Nuclear, Unit 1, about six miles west-northwest of Russellville. An operating license was issued for the plant in May and operation began in August.

The application to build the unit was submitted to the AEC in 1967. This application was extensively reviewed by the AEC Regulatory Staff and the independent Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) and a public hearing was held before permission was granted to build the unit. Throughout construction, the AEC conducted inspections to assure that the plant was being built in compliance with AEC requirements. These inspections continue throughout the operating life of the plant.

Before the operating license was issued, additional reviews were conducted by the Staff and the ACRS to assure that plant operation would not endanger public health and safety and would not have a major adverse impact on the environment. As an indication of the scope of AEC reviews and the safety features required for nuclear plants, we are enclosing a copy of the Regulatory Staff's Safety Evaluation on the project. A copy of the Final Environmental Statement also is enclosed.

Partly as a result of this close regulatory scrutiny by the AEC, nuclear power plants have achieved an outstanding public safety record: with well over 200 reactor years of operating experience in commercial nuclear power plants, no member of the public and no plant employee has been injured or killed in a radiation-related incident.

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Honorable John Paul Hammerschmidt

Page Two

We do not suggest that nuclear power is without risk, but we do consider it "safe" in the normal sense of the word. In fact, a draft study on reactor safety published last August concluded that the risks from nuclear power are indeed small, and in many cases smaller than many other man-made and natural risks. These include automobile and aircraft travel, fires, explosions, earthquakes and hurricanes. A copy of a Summary Report of the study is enclosed.

We wish to assure Ms. Standridge that the attention given nuclear power safety in the past will not diminish in the future and that the new Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which takes over shortly the regulatory responsibilities of the AEC, will continue to provide a high degree of assurance that public health and safety are being protected.

Sincerely,

(signed) Joseph J. Fouchard for

John A. Harris, Director
Office of Information Services

Enclosures:

1. Arkansas Nuclear SER
2. Arkansas Nuclear FES
3. Summary Report of WASH-1400
4. Incoming ltr fm Ms. Standridge
to Mr. Hammerschmidt dtd Dec. 9, 1974

bcc: OCR (3) 63180
G. Ertter DR-7994

OFFICE →	OLS	OLS	OLS	OIS	OCR	H/L
SURNAME →	CGustin:jf	FLIngram	JJFouchard	JAHarris	OS	
DATE →	1/10/75	1/13/75	1/14/75	1/ /75	1/14/75	

FROM
Rep. John P. Hammerschmidt, AR

CONTROL NUMBER
7994

FILE LOCATION

DATE OF DOCUMENT
12-20-74

AL JN COMPLETION DEADLINE
1-7-75

TO
Ms. Peggy Standridge

ACTION PROCESSING DATES
Acknowledged _____
Interim Reply _____
Final *1/15/75*

PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF:

Chairman

Director of Regulation
X **Ingram**

DESCRIPTION **Ltr.** Original Copy Other *Hammers 1/15/75*

Cy of reply to letter from Peggy Standridge expressing concern about her safety as a result of living near a nuclear power plant & req. material concerning safety features of nuclear plants

REMARKS

63180

REFERRED TO	DATE	IS NOTIFICATION TO THE JCAE RECOMMENDED?
Ingram f/action	12-31-74	_____
	<i>12/12</i>	Cys: _____

DIRECTOR OF REGULATION
COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL

FROM MR. J. P. HADERSCHIFT (SP)		DATE OF DOCUMENT 12/20/74	DATE RECEIVED 12/27/74	CONTROL NUMBER GT 63180
		SUSPENSE DATE 1/6	FILE CODE	
TO MS. PROSY STANBRIDGE HUNTSVILLE, AR. (CY TO ASC)		CLASSIFICATION U Series: _____ Copy _____ of _____	REPLY DATES Acknowledge d 12/30 Interim _____ Final _____	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Handling <input type="checkbox"/>
DESCRIPTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Other MACHINE CY REPLY TO HER LTR EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT HER SAFETY AS A RESULT OF LIVING NEAR A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT		PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>DIV. OFFICE DIRECTOR</u> <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL MANAGER <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> ASST. GENERAL MANAGER _____		
ENCLOSURES		REMARKS: ALSO TRANS.: ORIG. OF LTR FM MS. STANBRIDGE, DATED		
REFERRED TO	DATE	RECEIVED BY	DATE	
MS.	12/27			
		INFORMATION COPIES SENT TO: <input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL MANAGER <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/>		

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL
U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

FORM HQ-264
(4-68)

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT
THIRD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

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HARRISON, ARKANSAS

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
409 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 225-4301

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 20, 1974

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HOSPITALS
HOUSING

Ms. Peggy Staudridge
Conners Lakeside T. P.
Russellville, Arkansas 72801

Dear Ms. Staudridge:

Thank you for your recent letter expressing concern about your safety as a result of living near a nuclear power plant.

In that the United States Atomic Energy Commission is charged with responsibility for approving the construction and operation of nuclear power plants, I will contact them immediately to let them know of your concern. Also, I will ask that they provide appropriate material for you concerning the safety features they require to be included in such plants.

As soon as I have a report, I will be back in touch with you.

With best wishes for the Holiday Season,

Sincerely yours,

~~PERSONAL POWER PLANT INFORMATION~~

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT
Member of Congress

JPH:zmb

cc: Atomic Energy Commission

Rec'd 11:00 AM of 1974
12/21/74
Dma

~~SECRET~~
Subject T.P.
Date 12/21/51

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DEC 9 1951

Dear Sir,

I'm writing to you about the Nuclear Plant. I live by one and I don't want to die yet and neither does my family. I'm only 13 years old so you see why.

I think they should shut it down until they find out more about it.

There is a lot of people who don't want to die until their time has come. There are kids who can't even talk to even crawl. Do you care or are you a person who just thinks of themselves and not others?

It's a man made thing. God didn't put it on this earth and anything could do wrong.

All I'm asking is to please, please shut it down and learn more about it.

I think about it. If you do it you'll be saving a lot of lives.

Sincerely yours
Betty Standridge
(OVER)

P.S.

I have talked to some of my
friends who are younger than me
and they agreed.