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YELLOW CREEK WATERSHED AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 335 Iuka, Mississippi 38852

TELEPHONE 601/423-6456

January 26, 1981

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Our agency has been working with three counties in Northeast Mississippi to help them upgrade their overall emergency response capabilities. Also included, of course, is consideration of local emergency response capabilities in support of the Yellow Creek Nuclear facility now under construction in this area.

The Tennessee Valley Authority has already been very generous, through its mitigation program, in assisting these three counties to upgrade their general emergency response systems, such as fire fighting, emergency medical, etc. However, when it comes down to items specifically to the Nuclear Power Plant, local officials are under the impression, mistakenly we think, that the Yellow Creek facility absolutely cannot be licensed without their concurrence. They are also of the opinion that they expect TVA to, in effect, pay for all emergency response upgrading before they will give their concurrence and allow the facility to operate.

We have reviewed numerous NRC documents for them, including NUREG-0553, "Beyond Defense-In-Depth," and NUREG-0396, "Planning Basis for the Development of State and Local Government Radiological Emergency Response Plans in Support of Light Water Nuclear Power Plants" but have not succeeded in convincing them.

We have urged them to take advantage of the available mitigation funds, now, rather than holding our for more later. We have also pointed out to them that the mitigation funds will allow them to upgrade their total emergency response infrastructure, while any funds which may come later would be specifically tied to radiological emergency response and do nothing to help them put out fires or save the lives of heart attack victims.

"Promoting the Development of Human Resources"

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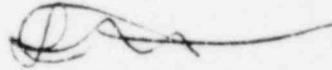
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: R. Edwin Hunley

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Would you please, in as plain language as possible, clarify this question for us and for them. We think a letter directly from your office would be much more effective than our trying to get them to read the voluminous NRC documents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louis Bohorfoush', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Louis Bohorfoush
Emergency Response Planner

LB/cfg