FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON D C 20426

March 29, 1991

Mr. Dennis K. Rathbun Director, Congressional Affairs Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Rathbun:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to Senator Howell Heflin, who wrote the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission concerning the Browns Ferry nuclear reactor.

Since the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has responsibility for this matter, I am forwarding the attached letter to you for further response.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely, Cretz Back

Cristena L. Bach

Director, Congressional Affairs

and State Liaison

Enclosures

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON D C 20426

March 29, 1991

Honorable Howell Heflin United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-0101

Dear Senator Heflin:

Thank you for your March 25, 1991, letter, on behalf of Mr. Mike Dorriety, concerning reactivation of the Browns Ferry nuclear reactor.

Unfortunately, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) does not have jurisdiction over the matter of concern to your constituent. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission may be able to be of assistance. Accordingly, I am forwarding your letter to that agency for a reply.

For future reference, the FERC is responsible for regulating the production, sale, and transmission of natural gas; establishing just and reasonable rates for wholesale sales and the interstate transmission of electric power; licensing non-Federal hydroelectric power projects; and regulating rates charged by pipeline companies to transport oil in interstate commerce. The FERC also has the authority to review certain rulemakings and major energy actions proposed by the Department of Energy.

If I can ever be of assistance on any Commission matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Cristena L. Bach

Director, Congressional Affairs

and State Liaison

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HOWELL HEFLIN

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

728 Senate Hart Building Washington, DC 20610-0101 (202) 224-4:24

Date:

Re:

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0101

March 25, 1991

Mike Dorriety

STATE OFFICES

- 355 FEDERAL BUILDING 1800 FIRTH AVENUE NORTH BIRMINGHAM AL 35203 (205) 731-1500
- 113 ST JOSEPH STREET 437 U.S. COURTHOUSE MOBILE AL 38602 (205) 432-7715
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REFERRED TO: Fed. Energy Regulatory Commission Office of Congressional and Public Affairs 825 North Capitol Street

Room 9200 Washington, DC 20426

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views will be appreciated by:

Howell Heflin

HH/bp

Enclosure

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Mike Dorriety 1731 Eastridge Drive Birmingham, Alabama 35235

March 12, 1991

Senator Howell Heflin The United States Senate 728 Yart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heflin:

I was very disturbed with reports that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will give TVA permission to restart a reactor at the Browns Ferry site near Decatur. The same news story (B'ham. News, 3/6/91) reported that TVA has some fifty three "human engineering defects" to resolve, but the NRC was expected to give them a go-ahead anyway. Given the history of Browns Ferry, you may as well start proceedings to change the name of Limestone County to Chernobyl County.

Please use your considerable influence to put this potential disaster on hold! Having dealt with nuclear weapons in the USAF, I thoroughly understand what is meant by "human engineering defects", and I cannot fathom why the NRC would allow TVA to restart a reactor in the face of so many unresolved issues, especially considering Brown Ferry's sorry record.

I know you will want to stop this nonsense and keep the NRC in check. It seems they have the interests of the utility industry at heart rather than the safety of the good citizens of Alabama. Please stop them before it's too late.

Sincerely,

Mike Dorriety