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Mr. Nunzio Palladino, Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H St NW
Washington, DC 20555

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Dear Sir,

I am deeply disappointed with the action taken by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding the Clinch River breeder reactor. In fact many of the recent actions of the NRC appear to have serious adverse effect on the future of nuclear power. I'm sure this is coincident with well meant direction.

However, it is possible that concern for caution has conditioned the NRC much too far. The enviable safety record of nuclear power shows that additional investment in safety is hardly necessary. Unreasonably accelerated costs show that safety may have been carried beyond economic justification. Very few Americans expect to live without risk. If they did, they would not use automobiles, certainly not tobacco.

We have nearly exhausted the world's readily accessible natural resources and we have used them for good purposes. As things stand, about all that's left for us to pass on to future generations is an adequate power base with which they can extract basic raw materials from previously uneconomical sources. If we fail them, they will find themselves international paupers. No other modern nation accepts any delays in constructing nuclear power facilities. All of the facts point to nuclear power as the fuel for the next 20 to 40 years and it deserves every encouragement. With fair reasonable regulation no other fuel can compete.

I hope the policies of the NRC take these thoughts into account.

Very truly yours,

John W. Baum

JOHN W. BAUM, PE

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