

TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

NORRIS, TENNESSEE 37828

50-5371
611 311

December 10, 1981

Mr. Mike Masnik
AR-5200
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mike:

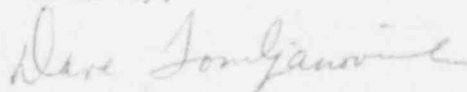
This letter will confirm the updated commercial fish survey data for Watts Bar Reservoir; William Seawell supplied you by telephone on December 9, 1981 in response to your question on the Clinch River Breeder Reactor Project Environmental Impact Statement.

Using most recent commercial fish harvest data for the Tennessee Valley, we estimate a total annual commercial harvest of about 389,000 pounds worth \$116,700 in Watts Bar Reservoir and 1000 pounds of paddlefish roe worth \$24,000. Both values are wholesale amounts paid directly to fishermen. These estimates are based on the reservoir size, our knowledge of standing crop, and data from individual fish markets serving Watts Bar.

Watts Bar was closed to gill and trammel netting by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency after 1978, resulting on reduced commercial fish harvest. Although we have no completed harvest data since 1978, we estimate current commercial fish catch in the reservoir to be about 260,000 pounds worth \$78,000 and 1000 pounds of paddlefish roe worth \$35,000 annually. These estimates are based on the 1978 estimate minus that portion of the fishery harvested by gill and trammel nets.

If you have further questions about these estimates, please let me know.

Sincerely,



David A. Tomljanovich
Biologist
Fisheries and Aquatic Ecology
Division of Water Resources

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cc: Mr. Ken Yates
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