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NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION

NIAGARA  MOHAWK 82 AGO -6 411:19

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RICHARD C. CLANCY  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF SECURITY  
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BRANCH

August 4, 1982

DOCKET NUMBER  
PROD. & MTL. NO. 50-537-E

Dr. Nunzio J. Palladino, Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Palladino:

Niagara Mohawk is extremely concerned about the continuing delays in the Clinch River Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactor Project. As the largest utility in New York State in terms of sales, we believe that nuclear power will continue to be the major contributor to low cost power in our area and provide much-needed stability in the power generation fuel market. Our two nuclear units will soon generate 25 percent of our total energy production.

The LMFBR is the key to the long-term supply of nuclear fuel. Based on Niagara Mohawk's experience in advanced technology development, we believe that several decades of systematic development and demonstration will be necessary before the LMFBR can take its place as a commercially viable option for power generation. The LMFBR programs of other nations appear to recognize this fact. Further delay of the Clinch River Project threatens the timely and cost effective completion of a key link in this development chain, thus jeopardizing the overall goals and maintenance of technical excellence for the entire U.S. LMFBR program.

We urge timely approval of the Limited Work Authorization to permit site preparation for the Clinch River Project.

Sincerely,

*Richard C. Clancy*

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Acknowledged by

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# DREXEL L. SMITH

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July 28, 1982

OFFICE OF STATE  
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50-537 E

Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino  
Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 90555

Dear Dr. Palladino:

I request your support on the accelerated site preparation for the Clinch River Breeder Project. Britain, Japan, and the Soviet Union all have programs developing the breeder, all of which are more vigorous than ours. But the world leader in this area is France, with a program 15 years ahead of ours. The French Super-Phenix breeder, now nearing completion, is the prototype of a full-scale commercial power-producing breeder, and has continued to receive the full support of the Socialist government of Francois Mitterand.

While we dither and debate in this country, the French are building.

Let's implement the President's October 1981 Nuclear Policy Statement calling for the expeditious completion of the CRBRP to "ensure our preparedness for longer term power needs".

Sincerely,

  
Drexel L. Smith

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