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$(59 \neq R 6792)$ Coalition for Health Concern

Route 9, Box 25 Benton, Kentucky 42025 (502) 527-1217

'94 MMR -8 AND 18 March 1, 1994

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COMMENTS

Secretary

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Att. Docketing Service Branch Washington, D.C. 20555

- We take issue that the gaseous diffusion plant at Paducah, Ky. has operated "safely" for approximately forty years", as stated in your "certification of Gaseous Diffusion Plants" proposed rule. There is much evidence against such a conclusion.
- 2. The status of the Paducah facility with regard to contamination, as being worse than the Hanford Washington facility site is proof of failure to protect the workers, the public, and the environment.
- 3. The deliberate releases of radioactive materials into the air at the Paducah plant from the early 1950's in an amount "twice that emitted at Oak Ridge, Tennessee", is proof of no concern for the welfare of the near by residents and downwinders.was shown.
- 4. The secret handling of plutonium at the Paducah facility while assuring the workers and the public that "plutonium" is never handled at the Paducah facility is betrayal of trust.
- 5. The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion plant resides in a geological rift zone that has produced the greatest earthquakes in North America. A major seismic event has been projected by the U.S. Geological Survey Office of Earthquake Research, Reston Virginia, for the past 15 years. The approximate time by the year 2000 or slightly thereafter. Such a seismic event will place the community at high risk.
- 6. The better part of judgement will be to close the Paducah enrichment plant and remediate the highly contaminated reservation.
- 7. The many cases of cancer, leukemia and evidence of sickness from exposure to Tc⁹⁹ among the residents of the Paducah plant neighbors requires that the families who wish to relocate should be helped to relocate by DOE and other agencies.

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