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The Honorable Ivan W. Smith
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
c/o Sinnissippi Alliance for the Environment
326 North Avon Street
Rockford, Illinois 61103

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
EDUCATING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Re: Byron Nuclear Plant Licensing Hearings

Dear Judge Smith:

The Social Action Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association of Rockford, Illinois is writing to express the concern of the committee members with regard to the Byron nuclear plant. We hope you will take our opinions into consideration as you make the licensing decision.

Because of problems such as poor quality assurance, faulty steam generator design and the lack of an effective evacuation plan we feel it is inadvisable for the plant to begin operation, particularly since there appears to be little immediate need for increased energy production. We believe that due consideration should be given to the increased risks (i.e., release of radio-active materials into the environment, chance of accidents, waste disposal problems) that the operation of the Byron plant poses to residents of northern Illinois.

It is our position that since there is no current energy need in this area (and since predictions indicate there will be no need for the energy generated by the plant for approximately ten years), it would be reasonable to delay licensing and operation of the plant until the problems with design, quality assurance, waste disposal and emergency procedures can be solved.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Martha Pulido

Martha Pulido, Chairperson
YWCA Social Action Committee

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