

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 17, 1984

The Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chairman Palladino:

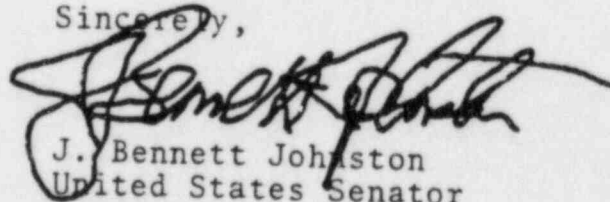
As you know, Mississippi Power and Light was issued a full power license for its Grand Gulf Nuclear Power Plant on June 16, 1982. However, operation under that license was limited to 5% of full power. Authorization to operate at full power was delayed, pending compliance by MP&L with certain commission requirements regarding construction and operating procedure.

MP&L has made the required corrections, yet it still awaits authorization for full power operation. The continued delay in receiving such authorization poses practical and financial difficulties. In the near term, a neutron source must be procured for power generation. In the long term, the high holding costs which accumulate with further delay may jeopardize the financial well being of the utility.

For this reason, I would appreciate receiving a status report on the Grand Gulf Nuclear Unit, as well as a proposed timetable for authorization of restart and full power operation. I appreciate your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,



J. Bennett Johnston
United States Senator

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