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HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

February 18, 1985

COMMITTEES
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The Honorable Nunzio Palladino
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

DOCKET NUMBER
PROC. & UTIL. FAC.

50-482-01

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As a member of the Kansas Legislature, I am deeply concerned with the approaching conditional licensure of the Wolk Creek electrical generating station. It is my understanding that this licensure may occur in spite of the fact that open investigations exist into matters such as alleged construction defects and quality assurance deficiencies. Since such matters are directly relevant to the issue of plant safety, I ask for your assistance.

Correspondence between your office and the offices of Congressman Dan Glickman and Congressman John D. Dingell has been made available for our review. It is clear from a review of the Congressmen's questions and your response that:

- 1) A substantial number of structural steel welds have been found to be below accepted standards;
- 2) Investigations into the weld deficiencies are underway, including such issues as missing, falsified or erroneous quality assurance records; and
- 3) Unanswered safety questions remain, including problems relating to the safe separation of electrical cables.

I would like to express my concern and the concern of many other Kansans relating to the safe and economical production of nuclear-generated electricity. The Wolf Creek project has been the object of scrutiny from this Legislature and from other agencies of state government. We have attempted to maximize the ability of our utility commission to review the project and determine the extent to which the ratepayers will assume construction related costs.

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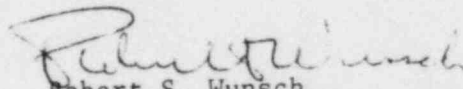
However, Congress has established that your commission is the review mechanism for all matters relating to the safe construction and operation of nuclear plants. It is in that capacity that I seek your assistance.

I ask that all investigations, including any pre-investment matters pending in the Office of Investigation and of Inspection and Enforcement, be concluded in a comprehensive and thorough manner. I ask that your findings be made available to me, to the Kansas Congressional delegation, our Governor and Attorney General, and to the Kansas Corporation Commission. I ask that these things be done prior to the issuance of a conditional, low-power operating license.

When the power is turned on at Wolf Creek, it is essential that all questions have been answered and all safety standards met. Only these conditions will provide the needed assurances to Kansas to validate the operational integrity of the Wolf Creek plant.

I express my appreciation for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,


Robert S. Wunsch
Representative
101st District

RSW:lsf