

Aug. 2, 2002

Ms. Phillis A. Fox
1 Three Springs Lane
Unicoi, TN 37692

SUBJECT: GAS CENTRIFUGE ENRICHMENT PLANT CONCERNS
(DOCKET NO. 70-3103)

Dear Ms. Fox:

In your undated letter to me, you indicated that you oppose the siting of a uranium enrichment plant in Unicoi County, Tennessee, and requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to disapprove the proposed plant. As you are aware, Louisiana Energy Services (LES) is in the site selection process for siting a proposed uranium enrichment plant using gas centrifuge technology. As of today, LES has not made a site selection for this proposed plant.

Regardless of where the LES facility is ultimately sited, the NRC will be responsible for reviewing LES's license application, which we expect to receive in December 2002. In our review, we will address the protection of public health and safety of the proposed operations. We will also address any health and safety impacts due to the possible site flooding concern you raised.

The NRC's licensing process also provides several formal opportunities for public participation. These opportunities include public meetings for scoping the Environmental Impact Statement, an opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in writing and in a public meeting, and an opportunity to petition for a hearing.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Timothy C. Johnson
Senior Mechanical Systems Engineer
Special Projects Section
Special Projects and Inspection Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket: 70-3103

cc: William Szymanski/DOE
James Curtiss/W&S
Rod Krich/Exelon
Mario Robles/USEC

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*See previous concurrence

OFC	SPIB*		SPIB*		SPIB*	
NAME	TCJohnson		DAHoadley		JGiitter	
DATE	8/ 01 /02		8/ 01 /02		8/ 02 /02	

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