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October 27, 2002

Mr. Michael Lesar, Chief, Rules Review and Directives Branch  
Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration Services  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: LES URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY

Dear Mr. Lesar:

I believe that the benefits of building the Uranium enrichment plant in Hartsville, Tennessee have been greatly overstated, and I am not convinced of the need for this plant.

There is a sham financial structure, designed to shield major corporate partners. Do they have genuine commitments for the money to build this plant? My understanding is that LES has no financial assets of its own. Is this the same type of financial structure that was set up by the Enron Corporation, that could further burden local, state and federal resources?

They have not given the citizens of Trousdale and surrounding counties any satisfactory answer regarding the disposition of depleted uranium. They refuse to give any time frame at all, simply stating that 90 days is not long enough. This leaves us open to having uranium stored on this site for lengthy periods, perhaps forever. The depleted uranium is used in making weapons, that could certainly make us the target of terrorism. This type of weapon was used against Iraq during the Gulf War and led to a huge increase in leukemia cases among Iraqi children.

I am quite concerned by the recent announcement that LES is paying for trips to Europe for local leaders (the ones that would be voting on this issue). This smacks of bribery. Whenever one takes something from someone, be it trips, money or gifts, then there is a sense of obligation. We do not want our elected officials bought and paid for by LES, or their European partners.

If this is such a benign industry, then why do they always try to go where there is a large proportion of minority and poor residents. Is it because they think these people have no power? In closing, let me say that there is already a very high incidence of cancer in this part of Middle Tennessee. Please don't grant a license for a facility that would contribute to the detriment of our health.

Very truly yours,

Harry McCarl

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