

December 30, 2002

The Honorable Bill Frist
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1702

Dear Senator Frist:

I am writing in response to Misty Weber's letter to Mr. Dennis Rathbun, dated November 26, 2002. Ms. Weber's correspondence attached a letter from Ms. Jane Ogles concerning the licensing of a uranium enrichment facility in Hartsville, Tennessee, being proposed by Louisiana Energy Services (LES).

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is responsible for reviewing LES's license application, which we expect to receive in January 2003. Our review will address the protection of public health and safety of the proposed operations. We will also prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

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, and an opportunity to petition for a hearing.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William D. Travers
Executive Director
for Operations

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Executive Director
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Docket: 70-3103

cc: William Szymanski/DOE
George Dials/LES
Rod Krich/Exelon
James Curtiss/W&S
Jerry Clift/Trousdale
Mario Robles/USEC
E. Nanney/State of Tennessee
Michael Marriotte/NIRS
Ms. Misty Weber/Senator Frist staff

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OFC	NMSS*		OCA		DEDO		EDO	
NAME	MVirgilio		DRathbun		CPaperiello		WTravers	
DATE	12/ 18 /02		12/ 30 /02		12 / /02		12 / 24 /02	

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