



DOOTHAN / HOUSTON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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Shelby G. Womack
Director

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Deputy Director

50-348/364

October 28, 2003

Document Control Desk

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: P. T. Kuo
One White Flint
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Kuo:

The Southern Nuclear Operating Company, a Southern Company subsidiary, applied for a license to operate Plant Farley owned by Alabama Power Company and operated by Southern Nuclear. The application seeks to renew license for 20 additional years for Units 1 and 2 and extend to year 2037 for Unit 1 and 2041 for Unit 2.

I came to work with Dothan/Houston County Emergency Management Agency in May with a thirty year background in the Fire Service with special emphasis in Hazardous Materials Emergency Response. I am a certified Hazardous Materials Instructor and taught many Industrial Classes through the Alabama State Fire College. I have responded to many industrial fires, spills, releases, and transportation emergencies. Emergency response experience has taught me that most industries do not have a solid plan to respond to emergencies in their facility; and in most cases, are not forth coming on information during emergency situations.

Only after the fact do emergency responders learn that they either have spilled more than they want to admit or have released more than they will admit. In some circumstances, this puts the emergency responders' lives in jeopardy. Additionally, this is part of the curriculum that is presented during classes to emergency responders.

I have found that this is not the case with the safety personnel and management at Plant Farley. They have worked closely with The Dothan/Houston County Emergency Management Agency and others to put in place a solid response plan. Plant Farley takes protection of their employees and community seriously. They support the emergency responders with expertise, recommendations and, most importantly to the emergency responders, the funds to support the plan. The equipment can also be used each day to support other emergencies in the community. There are no other Industries that I know of that are willing to furnish the funds to help emergency responders to support their industry, let alone to be utilized for other purposes in the community. This is unheard of in the response world. I

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have gone to Plant Farley Safety management and employees with questions and suggestions, and they are willing to listen, answer questions and adopt good recommendations that support the plant and emergency responders.

The plant has a direct impact on our community with some Seven Million Dollars in tax revenue. The Dothan/Houston County area is a great place to live and raise a family. Plant Farley and their employees have certainly been a major player in our community. I think their past history of protecting the environment and being a community partner should be recognized by all as a job well done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clark Matthews".

Clark Matthews
Community Coordinator
Dothan/ Houston County EMA