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11045 PGM BUWASHINGTON DC 208 05-29 457P EDT

MR JOSEPH M HENDRIE CHAIRMAN
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON DC 20555

REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
COULD CONSIDER A STAFF PROPOSAL FOR A SIX-MONTH DELAY IN
THE PROCESSING AND ISSUANCE OF AN OPERATING LICENSE FOR
THE WATERFORD-3 NUCLEAR PLANT AT TAFT, LOUISIANA. I ALSO
UNDERSTAND A TWELVE-MONTH DELAY IS CONTEMPLATED FOR THE
GRAND GULF UNIT IN MISSISSIPPI.

ADOPTION OF THESE PROPOSALS COULD MEAN A LOSS OF
APPROXIMATELY 2360 MEGAWATTS OF CAPACITY IN THE LOUISIANA-
ARKANSAS-MISSISSIPPI REGION DURING 1981 AND 1982, SINCE THE
NRC STAFF APPARENTLY INTENDS TO DELAY OTHER NUCLEAR UNITS IN
THE REGION, THUS MAKING REPLACEMENT ENERGY UNAVAILABLE,
A CAPACITY LOSS OF THIS MAGNITUDE WILL MEAN BROWNOUTS OR EVEN
BLACKOUTS DURING THE SUMMER PEAK SEASONS.

RELIABLE ESTIMATES SHOW THAT DURING THE DELAY PERIOD, AN
ADDITIONAL 18 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL WILL BE REQUIRED
WITH A FUEL COST DIFFERENTIAL OF \$195 MILLION, THIS WILL BE
MEAN FINANCIAL DISASTER FOR RESIDENTIAL
AND INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS IN THE REGION, EVEN IGNORING THE
SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN CONSTRUCTION COSTS WHICH WOULD RESULT
FROM THE DELAY.

IF THE NRC STAFF DOES INDEED RECOMMEND SUCH DELAYS, I
STRONGLY URGE THAT THE COMMISSION CONSIDER THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC
IMPACT TO THIS REGION BEFORE APPROVING SUCH PROPOSALS.
SINCERELY,

ROBERT L LIVINGSTON MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FIRST DISTRICT LOUISIANA

16:23 EST

PGMCOMP PGM

POOR ORIGINAL

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