



June 26, 1981

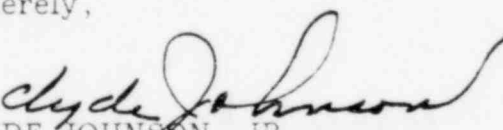
Mr. Charles Bechhoefer  
Chairman  
Atomic Safety & Licensing Board  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Bechhoefer:

The June 22, 1981, edition of the San Antonio Express succinctly exemplifies the sentiments of San Antonio's business community concerning the South Texas Nuclear Project. Consequently, we request that the attached editorial be included in the official records with the licensing procedure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
CLYDE JOHNSON, JR.

/65B  
Enc.

DS03  
5/11



*Express*

**An editorial**

6-22-81

1-A

# San Antonio at crossroads

As with men, there are times in the life of a city when its future stands at a crossroads.

Prospects never looked brighter for San Antonio than now.

Long established San Antonio businesses are expanding and betting on the city's future as never before.

New plants, particularly in the electronics industry, have come into San Antonio in record numbers this year.

Office buildings, hotels and supermarkets are being built at an unprecedented rate.

Investors over the nation are beginning to see San Antonio as a promising city —

even for Texas and the Sun Belt.

If this can be continued, it means new jobs — and not just at the minimum wage level but technical and other jobs that can bring income levels San Antonio has long needed.

One issue that puts the future of San Antonio at the crossroads is the movement to "put a cap" on the city's participation in the South Texas nuclear plant.

For a detailed statement on why the Express believes that the nuclear plant may be a key in San Antonio's future, see the editorial, "Nuclear plant for S.A. future" on Page 12A.



# San Antonio Express

## EDITORIALS

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# Nuclear plant for S.A. future

There are those in San Antonio who would "put a cap" on the city's participation in the South Texas Project nuclear plant.

At the base of their argument is the claim that San Antonio has so much reserve generating capacity that we can meet all our electric needs for years to come with our present plant.

We do not believe that is the case.

Prospects for San Antonio were never as good as they are now.

Much of this promise of unprecedented progress comes from companies long established here. There is not a successful business that is not adding people, creating new jobs and betting on San Antonio's future.

But consider the newcomers — what has happened in the industrial field alone since Jan. 1 of this year, as reported by the Economic Development Foundation.

- Advanced Micro Devices, manufacturers of semi-conductors, has announced a San Antonio plant — 300 employees now, 1,500 anticipated in three years.

- Tandy Company, making small business computers, 400 employees at the start.

- U.S. Dynamics, an electronics support company, 120 highly skilled technicians.

- Control Data in Vista Verde, first employing 175 people in a temporary structure and now completing a 50,000 square foot building, the first part of 260,000 square feet planned.

- An unnamed company — not yet ready to announce — that already has built a 50,000 square foot plant on West Commerce Street.

- Vanier Graphics, recently announced — computer business forms, employing 50 to start.

Don't overlook the companies already here in the manufacturing field.

Datapoint, whose success focused the national business

spotlight on San Antonio, now has about 3,100 employees. It has been adding about 400 a year with a new plant and a total of 5,000 employees not too far in the future.

Swearingen Aviation added 300 employees last year.

Farmon Electric went into a temporary facility in 1980 and already has moved into a newer and much larger facility.

Fiber Glass Systems finished its first building not too many months ago and now has added about 25,000 square feet.

This is only a sampling of the industrial side of San Antonio. Business and commerce look just as bright. Office buildings, hotels, supermarkets — San Antonio has never looked more promising.

City Public Service is directly affected by all this. CPS added 17,000 customers in 1980, of which only 3,000 could be attributed to changing apartment meters into individual meters.

We believe continued participation in the South Texas Project nuclear plant is essential to San Antonio's future.

We are sympathetic with those of low income who face the hardship of high utility bills. Coupled with inflation, electric and gas bills cause genuine suffering for many.

The money CPS has borrowed to finance our share of the nuclear plant is a factor in the electric bills.

With the already heavy increase in the price of oil and natural gas and in coal freight rates — and the prospect of still greater increases — nuclear power is the most promising way to hold down electric bills over the long haul.

The main reason for the plant, however, is that San Antonio's progress and San Antonio's jobs — particularly jobs above the minimum wage — depend on adequate electric power.

"Putting a cap" on the South Texas Project could well be putting a cap on San Antonio's future when it looks brightest.

