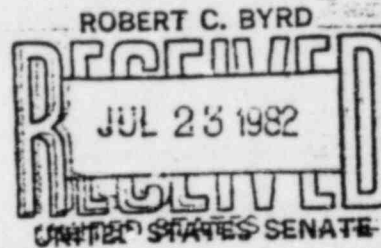


July 20, 1982

PR

Nunzio Palladino  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Mr. Palladino:

We are writing in support of the Department of Energy's request to you for approval to begin site preparation for the Clinch River Breeder Reactor Plant.

Although West Virginia has no nuclear power plants, we and other West Virginians support a healthy mix of energy sources including nuclear power now and for the future. We will have to rely more and more on nuclear power as we continue to deplete our dwindling fossil fuel resources.

Breeder reactors offer the promise of an essentially inexhaustible energy source. We have depleted uranium stored in cylinders at our enrichment plants that can, if used in breeders, provide the U.S. electric energy needs for more than 700 years!

But to use this valuable resource, the U.S. must move forward in its liquid metal fast breeder reactor program. An integral part of the program is completion of the Clinch River Plant.

The Clinch River Project has been delayed long enough by politics and by those groups who refuse to look objectively at the facts. The technology is sound and the most advanced in the world; component order and fabrication is over 60% complete; design is over 85% complete; research and development is over 95% complete; and all environmental considerations are being taken into account.

Thus, we urge you and the other Commissioners to vote positively on the Energy Department's request to begin site preparation for the Clinch River Plant.

Sincerely,

*Walter E. Knapp*  
Walter E. Knapp

*Shirley A. Knapp*  
Shirley A. Knapp  
Rt. 3, Box 52  
Bridgeport, WV 26330

cc: President Ronald Reagan  
Senator Howard Baker  
Senator Robert Byrd  
Senator Jennings Randolph  
Congressman Thomas P. O'Neill  
Congressman Robert H. Mollahan.