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## COUNTY OF CHATHAM

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P. O. BOX 87

PITTSBORO, N. C. 27312

ORGANIZED 1770

707 SQUARE MILES

Preferred Site Local Advisory  
 Committee

December 17, 1994

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 County Manager

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Rules Review and Directives Branch  
 US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
 Washington, DC 20555

T. Le  
 59 FR 51618

RE: Comment on Docket #50-400, Amendment to Shearon Harris License

10/12/94

We are concerned that the proposed amendment to the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant license as announced by the Commission on October 12 in 59 FR 51617 fails to fully protect local citizens of Chatham County to the extent of the current law, 10 CFR 20, regarding allowable radiation emissions limits for the plant.

We understand that the plant's owner, Carolina Power and Light, has requested a continued allowance of 500 millirems per year emissions rather than a decrease to the currently required 100 millirems per year. We cannot understand why the NRC would not require this relatively new power plant to meet current standards, since these are obviously now considered to be the correct standards for public safety. If it is unable to meet such standards that is a matter of considerable concern to us, as the local government representing most of the people residing close to the plant.

Our attention was drawn to this matter because we monitor the proposed low-level radioactive waste <sup>site</sup> that is planned for less than a mile from the Harris Plant and will discharge radionuclides some day into Harris Lake between the two sites. We are concerned with masking of emissions of either facility and with the exposure that the same nearby citizens may get from both facilities. Air and water emissions from the plant may become part of surface waters leading to local drinking water supply sources.

We hope and expect that the NRC will understand this problem and refuse to grant the exemption to Carolina Power and Light, thus enforcing for local people the full protection of current law as they deserve.

Mary MacDowell  
 Research Coordinator