

July 20, 2013

Senator Lamar Alexander  
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Via:** Alison Martin

**Subject:** My public claims that Tennessee is at unnecessarily increased danger of a nuclear disaster at a TVA nuclear plant; request for your active involvement in resolving them

Dear Senator Alexander,

I have been regularly contacting your office with my concerns of long-standing federal agency lawbreaking at U.S. Office of Special Counsel (OSC), the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB), and/or the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for a decade now. Nothing has been resolved.

My broader concerns about OSC and MSPB impact every federal agency and put America at unnecessarily increased risk of a terrorist attack or other catastrophe. My concerns; however, are uniquely compounded in creating an unnecessarily increased danger in Tennessee of a public health and safety disaster involving TVA's nuclear power plants.<sup>1</sup>

I accept it would take moral courage/use of significant political capital for you to use the influence and authority of your office to persuade the President, or Secretary of Energy Moniz, or Special Counsel Lerner, or MSPB Chairman Grundmann, or TVA CEO Johnson, or Attorney General Holder, or the TVA Board to direct or request the Office of Legal Counsel of the Department of Justice lawfully resolve my well-founded contentions. I respectfully request that you do so to reduce the chances of a nuclear disaster in Tennessee.

You are among the most - if not the most - pro-nuclear power member of the U.S. Senate.<sup>2</sup> You are the most pro-science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education member of the

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<sup>1</sup> TVA's nuclear power plants are now the worst safety rated in Country, see <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2013/jul/18/tva-cited-again/>

<sup>2</sup> I have been a nuclear professional for over 35 years and have a "squeaky clean" personal and professional record, involving my serving as an officer on two nuclear submarines, working as an engineer at three commercial nuclear plants, and as engineer with nuclear safety responsibilities in DOE.

U.S. Senate.<sup>3</sup> You are among the most pro- Department of Energy (DOE) sick worker members of the U.S. Senate.<sup>4</sup>

Senator Alexander, nuclear power and technology cannot be adequately safe unless nuclear professionals are willing to jeopardize/sacrifice their jobs and careers, when necessary, to protect public health and safety by “blowing whistles,” and “standing firm” against retribution about violations of law, rule or regulation involving nuclear safety. Becoming an engineer must include a commitment to engineering ethics - and its “paramount” value of protecting public health and safety in the performance of professional duty. Such a commitment can require moral courage, but the failure - even of a single engineer - to display it when necessary can have disastrous consequences for an entire community or region.

I now publicly claim that the failure or refusal of the individuals named above - all of whom, with possible exception of TVA CEO Johnson, are familiar with my concerns and do NOT dispute their well-founded nature - to direct or request their lawful resolution at the Office of Legal Counsel of Department of Justice puts Tennessee at unnecessarily increased danger of a nuclear disaster at a TVA plant. I respectfully request you - or anyone else - who contends my claims are not truthful or objective to file a professional misconduct complaint against me - I welcome any opportunity to make my case.<sup>5</sup>

Thank you for whatever consideration you deem my request to merit.

Respectfully,

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<sup>3</sup> My wife is an elected public official, the current Chair of the Knox County School Board, and I have been a leader for many years in the Knoxville-Oak Ridge area in getting more STEM professionals engaged in volunteer outreach activities in K-12 STEM education.

<sup>4</sup> Tennessee has more DOE sick workers than any other State and many have thanked me for my putting my duty to worker health and safety before my self-interest in DOE.

<sup>5</sup> I have repeatedly documented these claims and their basis in law and fact, see [www.broken-covenant.org](http://www.broken-covenant.org), <http://whsknox.blogs.com/tva/nrc-from-carson-713.pdf>, <http://whsknox.blogs.com/tva/osc-2-tva-issues-53013.pdf>, and/or <http://whsknox.blogs.com/tva/President-obama-527-13.pdf>