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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 25, 1975

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DOUGLAS BENNETT

FROM:

JIM CONNOR 

SUBJECT:

Letter from Senator Brock
Opposing Hooper Nomination

The attached letter from Senator Brock was returned in the President's outbox with the request that it be reviewed with him on his return.

cc: Don Rumsfeld
Max Friedersdorf

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 22, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD B. CHENEY
THRU: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *RRW*
FROM: PATRICK O'DONNELL
SUBJECT: Brock letter opposing Hooper nomination

RRW

Dick, attached is a letter from Senator Brock strongly opposing the nomination of James Hooper to the Board of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Senator Brock requested that it be sent out to Colorado for the President's immediate attention.

Thanks.

cc: Doug Bennett

Bennett
Let's review on return
w/ Pres.
Dick

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BILL BROCK
TENNESSEE

Patti inform response 8-21

COMMITTEES:
FINANCE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 20, 1975

*Am. nomination
(James Hooper)*

The Honorable Gerald Ford
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

ME

As you know, I have been deeply concerned about the nomination of Mr. James Hooper to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority since it was originally announced.

While there have been several newspaper stories raising serious questions about some of Mr. Hooper's past business dealings, my main concern has been, and still remains, his professional qualifications for the job.

I have seen nothing that indicates that Mr. Hooper has the requisite experience to help set policy with the largest utility in the Nation. I have discussed these shortcomings with Mr. Hooper as have other concerned parties. While I applaud his candor in readily admitting his lack of expertise and experience, I do not think candor alone is enough to recommend him.

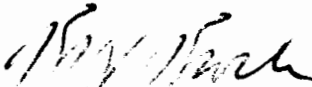
Mr. President, as you have stated in the past we have entered into an age where energy independence is becoming a must. I believe that the Tennessee Valley Authority has a major role to play in our fight towards this goal. If the TVA is to exert leadership and provide an example for power companies throughout the country, then it must have the finest possible leadership. Mr. Hooper simply does not meet the leadership standards that the people of Tennessee and the other TVA user states need and deserve.

I respectfully request that you immediately withdraw Mr. Hooper's name from further consideration for the position of TVA Director. If this is not done, I will be forced to do all in my power to defeat his nomination on the Floor of the United States Senate.

I do not find confirmation fights pleasant and feel sure that a confrontation over Mr. Hooper's confirmation, will not serve the best interests of the Tennessee Valley Authority, its customers or Mr. Hooper. I hope you will avoid such a confrontation by withdrawing Mr. Hooper's nomination and replacing him with a qualified nominee.

Mr. President, I hope you will give your immediate attention to this request as I feel it is of the utmost urgency.

Very truly yours,



BILL BROCK

BB:bjw

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



U.S.S.

The Honorable Gerald Ford
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.