

*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : H. L. Price, Director  
Division of Licensing and Regulation

DATE: JUNE 29, 1959

FROM : G. W. Morgan, Chief  
State and Interagency Branch

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SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON REACTOR SITE CRITERIA

I am not clear as to the rationale with respect to population density in site selection. I can well appreciate the problem of reducing potential exposure to a minimum number of people, but it appears to me that a person is a person and that the considerations with respect to population should be:

- 1) - Problems of evacuation and contamination control as related to population density.
- 2) - Indemnity limits as related to damage to people and property.

I fail to see the need to keep reactors away from factories, except as related to the above factors. In fact, control of exposure to people in industry would be greatly simplified as compared to controlling exposure to people in residential and commercial areas. Further, isolation from industry will make pronouncedly greater demands on land requirements.

I realize that many problems would be encountered, but it appears to me that the AEC is obligated to make some determination to see that reactor locations are consistent with the indemnification coverage. Otherwise, the agency is protecting the reactor industry and not the public.

The whole concept of population density appears to be open to question unless local agencies are willing to limit future growth of reactor areas when the permissible density is saturated.

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