

MAR 20 1961

Mr. James T. Ramey  
Executive Director  
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy  
Congress of the United States

Dear Mr. Ramey:

This is in reply to your letter of March 8, 1961, which refers to the suggestion by Mr. Townsend that the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy hold hearings with respect to the Commission's proposed reactor site criteria.

The proposed site criteria were issued by the Commission under a notice published in the Federal Register on February 11, 1961, which requested public comment within 120 days after the date of publication. We hope, and expect, to receive extensive comments from many individuals and organizations interested in problems of reactor siting. Copies of these comments will be filed in the Public Document Room and will be available for public inspection. We will, of course, furnish copies of all comments to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. The proposed criteria will be carefully and critically reviewed by the staff, the ACRS and the Commission in light of the comments received.

Since the Commission has now published a proposed guide for reactor siting for public comment, you may find that the purposes of a public hearing will be met by the rule-making procedure which the Commission has instituted.

Sincerely yours,

H. L. Price

H. L. Price  
Acting Director of Regulation

Cc: Cong. Liaison (2)  
Secretariat  
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# Congress of the United States

## JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY

March 8, 1961

General A. R. Luedecke  
General Manager  
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington 25, D.C.

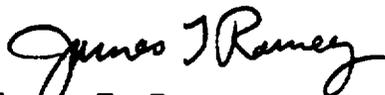
Dear General Luedecke:

During the course of his testimony at the Section 202 hearings on March 3, 1961, Mr. Oliver Townsend, Director of Atomic Development of the State of New York, suggested that the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy hold hearings with respect to the Commission's proposed reactor site criteria. Mr. Townsend stated that:

"Before these criteria are adopted...it would seem to me to be important that they be subjected to thorough public discussion, not only with regard to their technical validity but also with regard to their impact on the shape and nature of peaceful atomic development in this country...this may, therefore, be a proper and useful area for exploration by this Committee."

Your comments on Mr. Townsend's suggestion are requested by March 20, 1961.

Sincerely yours,

  
James T. Ramey  
Executive Director