

RECEIVED  
REGION 1

P O Box 113  
Spinnerstown, Pa. 18951  
August 30, 2003

Dear Mr. Kinnerman, <sup>2003</sup>SEP -2 PM 1: 25

I received your security orders Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for taking the time to send them. I appreciate the fact that the NRC has addressed this post 9/11 issue. Follow through of these orders hopefully will be met, overseen and financed to the level stated although my credence to them all is questionable.

After the first public meeting that you and Mr. Pangburn held in July, I felt an earnest sense of "Big Agency" listening to "Joe Public". I truly believed you were listening to the concerns of the common man and were going to sincerely check into each plausible account or suggestion. However after the Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at the Quakertown High School, I felt like the railroad train was plowing through even when people were still standing on the tracks. No "physical" drop test mandated, questions still on the history of hydrology of the site for an untested 22 foot pit and the ability for the concrete to maintain its integrity over time, no history of seismic activity recorded and your denial that a municipal airport so close to the site doesn't warrant it as a target was incomprehensible to me.

As was stated to you at that August meeting, TWO days after the July meeting a plane crashed within a mile of CFC, now SIX days after the August meeting an earthquake of 3.8 on the Richter Scale in Milford, New Jersey (20 miles from Spinnerstown, CFC site which US Geological Survey reports margin of error of epicenter 9 miles which could make it as close as 11 miles or 29 miles away), US Geological Survey records of earthquakes in Reading (38 miles away)'94 two, one of a 4.6 and 4.0 and in '93 a 2.5. Quite a coincidence of happenstance wouldn't you say? But your "independent" in house study found no history of seismic concern. Perhaps this is nature's way or a higher power's timing to say: STOP, LOOK at the individual statistics!!! Perhaps NASA's culture of invincibility is also a problem of the NRC agency and their rubber stamping of "paper" calculations of risk and they need to listen to the "NAY-SAYERS" in the back of the room--- yes, tangible risk. We physically test toys for children more than what you've done on this irradiator! Why not physically test the tonnage of an irradiator bell full of product or a plenum full of equal weight cobalt on a stainless steel and concrete tank? Stop with paperwork engineers and see in actuality.

I hope your agency isn't looking at these irradiators as a money making issue and some public community somewhere has to be the human population to base its study on the results of experimentation. God forbid if the tale of NRC is really "NOONE REALLY CARES."

You told the audience you do the best you can at your job. I believed at the July meeting you tried, but now after hearing the results of your job, I doubt your credibility and hope the "CULTURE" of your position and agency don't come true for my community and family like the Shuttle's future did. Sleep well, John, my 50 years of living on my grandparent's homestead farmland has become very uneasy for me at night with your decision. May we all pray Mr. Stein's engineering and your agency's engineers are correct on their experimental results that hold us in their hands.

I have enclosed the newspaper articles for your credibility that we ARE NOT INVINCABLE as some may think.

Very Sincerely,  
Sue Gross

*Sue Gross*

SUBURBAN LEHIGH AND BERKS EDITION

# THE MORNING CALL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2003 •

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## Minor earthquake rattles region

Milford, N.J., water pipes are shaken. Bucks hears a boom.

By Steve Esack and Pervaiz Shallwani  
Of The Morning Call

A minor earthquake, centered 10 miles southeast of Easton and Phillipsburg, shook the ground Tuesday afternoon, rattling walls —

and nerves — across parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey along the Delaware River.

The earthquake, registering 3.8 on the Richter scale, hit at 24 minutes and 16 seconds after 2 p.m., according to the U.S. Geological Survey. It was centered near Milford, N.J., and was felt in parts of the Lehigh Valley, the Philadelphia area and as far south as Atlantic City.

"We had some smaller ones in other parts of New Jersey,

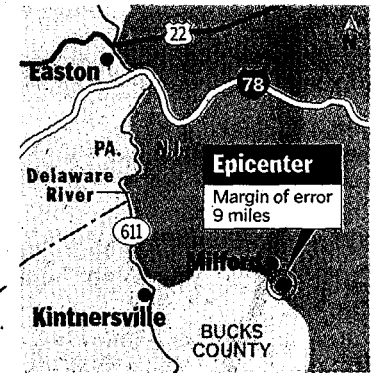
but in this area, it's kind of a rare place for an earthquake," said Waverly Person, a geophysicist at the Geological Survey in Lakewood, Colo. "The reason people scream so is they just are not used to having earthquakes."

It was about the 20th earthquake felt in the Lehigh Valley area since the late 1800s, Geological Survey records show.

"I am standing there washing the dishes and our whole

house started swaying back and forth and I thought a truck had hit our house," said Jeni Blew, outside a grocery store in Milford, Hunterdon County. "Everybody came running out of the house and started freaking out."

Authorities on both sides of the river received 911 calls about a thunderous boom, which preceded the shaking, but no reports of injuries or



Gary Visgaitis The Morning Call

QUAKE PAGE A4



WITH UNDERGROUND pipes shaken in the earthquake, Milford, N.J., hydrant is open to air dirty water. Residents complained of tainted water.

Catherine...  
The Morning...

**QUAKE**  
FROM PAGE A1

# Earthquake rattles through the region

property damage, even in Milford, which apparently felt the brunt of the earthquake.

"Between the borough, the Fire Department and the Water Authority, we got about 75 calls," Ken Diehl, assistant fire chief for the Milford Fire Company, said about three hours after the earthquake. He said the calls were mainly "water complaints" and people wondering "what happened."

Residents who receive water from the Milford Water Co. were being told Tuesday night to boil water before using it, said county Freeholder Frank Fuzo. Fuzo said the quake could have rattled the pipes at the plant, turning the water brown. He did not know how long residents would have to take the precaution, but he said it did not appear serious.

While Warren County's emergency dispatch center reported two earthquake-related calls, officials in Northampton and Bucks counties said they did not receive quake calls at their 911 centers. However, 225 people living in 64 different zip codes e-mailed the Geological Survey's Web site, <http://pasadena.wr.usgs.gov/shake/ne/>, reporting they felt light to weak shaking.

Virginia Fisher said she thought her oil burner blew up or her son fired a gun when a plaque fell off the kitchen wall of her home in Upper Black Eddy. "The dog was asleep in the front hall and came running in," Fisher, 88, said. "She

## EARTHQUAKES IN LEHIGH VALLEY REGION

**April 20, 2002** — Epicenter southwest of Plattsburgh, N.Y., measuring 5.1 on the Richter scale, shook the ground from Canada to Maryland. There was no damage reported in the Lehigh Valley, but some residents reported shaking shelves, leaning lamps and trembling tables.

**Jan. 15, 1994** — Epicenter in Wyomissing Hills, Berks County, two earthquakes measuring 4.0 and 4.6 on the Richter Scale caused cracked foundations, sinkholes, water main breaks and the buckling of several Spring Township roads.

**May 10, 1993** — Epicenter in Wyomissing Hills, Berks County, measuring 2.5 on the Richter scale.

**Nov. 25, 1988** — Earthquake near Quebec City, Canada, measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale rattled eastern Canada and the northeast United States. Lehigh Valley residents and

two area hospitals reported that tremors shook their buildings.

**Jan. 31, 1986** — Earthquake near Cleveland, measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale rumbled through the states, including western Pennsylvania. Most of the tremors were felt in western Pennsylvania.

**April 22, 1984** — Epicenter in Marticville, Lancaster County, measuring 4.2 on the Richter scale. The quake shook dishes and rattled some silverware in Allentown.

**Oct. 7, 1983** — An earthquake in New York's Adirondack Mountains, measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale rattled the Lehigh Valley. Residents reported that tremors shook their homes.

Information compiled from The Morning Call, Millersville University geology reports, and U.S. Geological Survey National Earthquake Information Center by historian Laurel Bruce.

was as scared as I was. I never thought it could be an earthquake. I did not think earthquakes make a boom."

Larry Malinconico, a Lafayette College geology professor, said scientists don't know why some earthquakes let out a roar and others don't. He said it might have to do with the depth of the quake, which in this case the Geological Survey says was 3.1 miles.

In Milford, residents guessed the nearby paper mill had exploded. They recalled how fire crews raced to a gas leak call there last week.

"The assumption was that the gas line had exploded," Diehl said. "It's the only thing in this area that would sound like that."

Then within a half-hour, word had spread that the noise that scared the 1,800-resident town was an earthquake.

"You couldn't imagine that it was not an explosion," said Linda Castagna, who along

with her husband, Rob, owns Chestnut Hill on the Delaware a bed and breakfast. "An earthquake to me never felt like that," she said, noting she felt one once in Costa Rica.

John Minsch, a Geological Survey geophysicist, said calculating an earthquake's center is not an exact science, with a margin of error of 9 miles.

Malinconico said it was the first and it will not be the last earthquake to hit this part of the East Coast. "It's not freakish at all," he said.

He said the area is crisscrossed with small inactive faults that occasionally open. He said the North American Plate is being pushed westward from the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, where a massive fault line stretches to California.

Malinconico said the East Coast rarely feels the stress movements because "we are in the middle of [the plate] even though we are on the coast"