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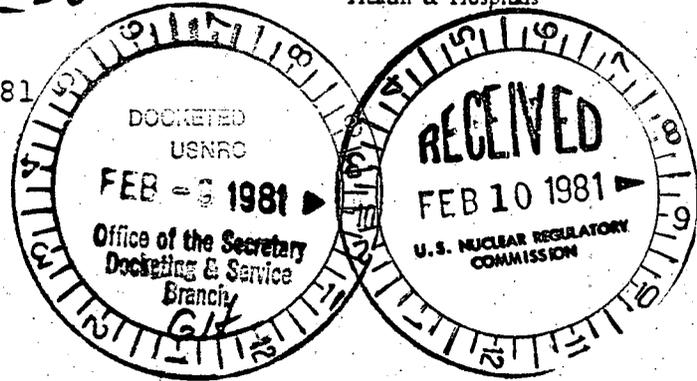
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Member  
Committee on Legislation  
Committee on Community Affairs,  
Health & Hospitals

February 3, 1981

Mr. John F. Ahearne, Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Mr. Ahearne:

I did not want to presume that an emergency evacuation plan from the 10 mile radius of Indian Point, Buchanan, New York could not be drafted. Therefore, I eagerly awaited the evacuation proposal that was compiled by the consultants for Con Edison and PASNY.

At this point, after reviewing the plan and attending the briefing by the consultants in Westchester on January 28, 1981, I now support the theory that evacuation is not a realistic alternative.

There are people suggesting that the plan can be modified to incorporate suggestions from the public, or that additional information can be collated. It has also been proposed that an extension of the April 1st deadline would give time to make the plan acceptable and workable.

I would like to go on record stating that the plan only represents a theory of words and not words of practicality. A plan has been developed which cannot be implemented and serves only to attempt to pacify a concerned public. It deflects proper consideration of more meaningful alternatives in an area as densely populated as ours.

Basic questions about this plan and about any plan based upon evacuation reveal the problems. For example:

a) Who has the authority to insure that necessary personnel, within and beyond the 10 mile radius, to execute the plan will in fact do their job rather than flee the area with their own families? The plan relies on bus drivers, policemen, medical personnel, radio station operators, directors of institutions, the Red Cross, prison guards, etc.

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February 3, 1981  
Page 2

b) According to the plan, the Ossining Correctional Facility will not be evacuated. What presumption is there that the guards and employees of the prison would remain within the 10 mile radius at this facility?

c) How will active lists be kept of the homebound? Who will be instructed to pick up the designated homebound and is sufficient equipment readily available to facilitate such transport?

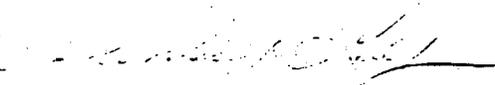
These issues only touch the surface. Present thinking concentrates on a Three Mile Island type event where fortunately, there was apparently no major escape of dangerous material. Suppose this is different and a hazardous cloud heads towards New York City. What does this do to the proposed plan?

As the NRC evaluates the submitted evacuation plan, I would suggest that a unique approach be contemplated, particularly justified, in light of the heavy concentration of the population in the area. The evacuation aspect of the plan should, I believe, be rejected and that, instead, an emphasis be placed on provisions for security within the home, business and school such as food and medical supplies to last for a period of days as well as related safety measures.

If you determine that self protection is not adequate to prevent a disaster, then I believe that continuation of the life of the plants at Indian Point are questionable.

I look forward to hearing your reaction to the Plan.

Sincerely,



Sandra R. Galef  
County Legislator of  
the Second District

SRG/esn