

GRAY PANTHERS OF WESTCHESTER

P.O. Box 152
SCARSDALE, N.Y. 10583

PHONE: (914) 793-2733



AGE AND YOUTH IN ACTION

50-247
50-286

CO-CONVENERS
MEREDITH COLTON
GLADYS ELSON
MEL WILLBACH

July 22, 1982

TREASURER
ILZA WILLIAMS

**CORRESPONDING
SECRETARY**
ELOISE SHELTON

Chairman,
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Administrative Judge's Office
White Plains Courthouse
111 Grove St.
White Plains, N.Y. 10601

**RECORDING
SECRETARY**
HELENE S. BERG

PUBLIC RELATIONS
BERNIE TEITELBAUM

Dear Sir:

On behalf of 200 members of the Gray Panthers of Westchester, this letter is written to express our concerns and objections to proposed plans of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the evacuation of residents from areas surrounding the Indian Point nuclear reactor in the event of an accident.

To increasing numbers of Westchester residents it is very frightening to have official bodies, such as yours, support the concept of nuclear energy which has proven to be of such potential danger to Americans. The further implications are just as frightening. The plutonium residual from the production of nuclear energy has to be transported around the country in faulty containers to be stored under or above ground where it remains a constant threat to the populace. And we are visiting the same threats to life in other parts of the world where storage of plutonium is unwanted. Even worse, is the knowledge that the plutonium is to be used to fuel atomic bombs which could destroy the earth.

When a crane broke in New York City very recently, causing a death and injury to people on the street below, we saw that one of the biggest resulting problems was the massive traffic snarl that tied up local traffic for 48 hours. This was confined to a few City streets, yet it had far reaching affect upon a very large traffic area, paralyzing

Aoo!

WE MEET AT 10 AM ON THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
T THE STEINBERG SENIOR ROOM, 1001 CENTRAL AVE., SCARSDALE

8208180044 820722
PDR ADOCK 05000247
H PDR

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transportation for millions. Surely, we can recognize the correlations between the New York City incident and the insane plan to evacuate large areas of Westchester County. We have to ask why you persist in this type of planning which is not feasible logistically?

With our views on ageism (discrimination against the elderly), we see your plan as a way to impose the harshest type of stress on the aged who lack mobility. Already, transportation in this County is sadly lacking and many of the elderly are forced to stay at home, unable to reach health and other services that might be available to them. How can we believe that a nuclear reactor accident would move these people better than all the combined national, State and local efforts over the years? Indeed, the trauma caused by fear and displacement from their homes could be expected to kill many of the aged.

Considering the above, we demand that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission abandon their evacuation plans, and truly regulate the manufacture of death-dealing nuclear power by stopping it altogether. We do not choose to become a nation of refugees without a safe place to go to.

Sincerely yours,

Gladys Elson

Gladys Elson, Co-convener

Gray Panthers of Westchester