

Docket No. 50-263

NOV 9 1970

Honorable Ancher Nelsen  
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Nelsen:

Thank you for your letter of September 22, 1970, transmitting a letter dated September 10, 1970, from Mrs. Daniel Klassen of Mankato, Minnesota. I am enclosing staff comments in response to concerns expressed by Mrs. Klassen.

If I can provide any further information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
Chris L. Henderson

*for* Harold L. Price  
Director of Regulation

Enclosures:

- 1. Staff Comments w/encls.
- 2. Ltr from Rep. Nelsen trans ltr from Mrs. Klassen

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DATE ▶	10/7/70	10/8/70	10/5/70	10/5/70	10/5/70	10/ /70

STAFF COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO LETTER FROM  
MRS. DANIEL KLASSEN, MANKATO, MINNESOTA

One of Mrs. Klassen's questions was "Why is the AEC responsible for promoting and regulating atomic power"?

During late 1969 and early 1970 the Congressional Joint Committee on Atomic Energy conducted public hearings on the environmental effects of producing electric power. I am enclosing Part 1 of these hearings, and I would particularly call Mrs. Klassen's attention to Commissioner James T. Ramey's testimony on pages 111-113 and 136-137 concerning AEC's role in promoting and regulating the uses of atomic power.

Mrs. Klassen also asked "Why can't a state pass laws for stiffer regulations on nuclear power plants"? I am enclosing a copy of testimony by Commissioner Ramey before the Pennsylvania State Senate Select Committee investigating the effects of nuclear power plants on the environment. In his testimony, Commissioner Ramey discusses the role of states in regulating nuclear power. In addition, with respect to the authority of the State of Minnesota to establish more restrictive standards regarding releases of radioactivity from nuclear power plants licensed by the AEC, this matter is now in litigation before the U. S. District Court, District of Minnesota, Third Division.

Regarding radiation from nuclear power plants, the AEC limits on radioactivity permitted in nuclear power reactor water effluents leaving a plant site, prior to dilution in a stream or other body of water, are such that a member of the public could use the effluent as a source of drinking water throughout his lifetime without exceeding the FRC radiation protection guides for an individual in the population. Concentrations in the effluents are, of course, further reduced by dilution in the body of water into which they are discharged.

Limits on rates of releases of radioactive gases are based on a conservative calculation which - at the point of highest radiation level averaged over a year, on or near the site boundary - would result in an exposure to an individual equal to the FRC radiation protection guide, if he remains on or near the site boundary for the entire year.

Additional background information on the AEC's regulatory program as related to the control of releases of radioactivity in effluents from nuclear facilities is included in the enclosed print of Part 1 of the JCAE hearings. Your attention is called especially to Commissioner Theos J. Thompson's testimony on pages 175 through 194, Commissioner Clarence E. Larson's testimony on pages 238 through 276, and the testimony of Dr. Paul Tompkins,

Executive Director of the Federal Radiation Council, on Pages 391 through 415 of the print. This testimony discusses in detail sources of radioactive effluents from a nuclear power plant and how these effluents are processed, the bases for radiation protection standards, how these standards are applied as limits on normal releases of small quantities of radioactive material, the results of environmental monitoring programs around nuclear power plants, and environmental research programs on the effects of radiation that are carried out by the AEC.

Enclosures:

1. Part 1, JCAE Hearings
2. Commissioner Ramey's speech

FROM  
Rep. Ancher Nelson (Minn.)

CONTROL NUMBER  
2813

ACTION COMPLETION DEADLINE  
10/1/70

DATE OF DOCUMENT  
9/22/70

FILE LOCATION

TO  
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ACTION PROCESSING DATES  
Acknowledged \_\_\_\_\_  
Interim Report \_\_\_\_\_  
Final 11/9/70

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REMARKS  
Reply for signature of Mr. of Reg.

Trans ltr fr Mrs. Daniel Klason re operation of the Monticello plant on a limited basis and asks why AEC is responsible both for promotion and regulation of atomic power and why the states cannot set lower standards

7756

REFERRED TO	DATE
Henderson f/action	9/28/70
Cys: Morris	
Shapar	
PRR (90-263)	

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Is notification to the JCAE recommended?

FROM

REP. ANGER NELSEN (MINN.)

DATE OF DOCUMENT

9/22/70

DATE RECEIVED

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7756

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SUSPENSE DATE

10/1

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REPLY DATES

Acknowledge 9/25

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

 Appropriate HandlingDESCRIPTION:  Original  Copy  Other

TRANS. LTR FR MRS. DANIEL KLASSEN, MINNAPOTA, MINN.  
 RE THE REQUEST AND ORIGINION TO ALLOW D.S.P. TO OPER  
 ON A LIMITED BASIS ITS MONTICELLO NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF:

 CHAIRMAN GENERAL MANAGER ASST. GENERAL MANAGER OFFICE DIRECTOR

F. DIA. OF REC

ENCLOSURES

LTR TO SENATOR QUINN FR MRS. DANIEL KLASSEN, DTD 9/19/70

REFERRED TO

DATE

RECEIVED BY

DATE

RMC

9/24

REMARKS:

INFORMATION COPIES SENT TO:

 CHAIRMAN GENERAL MANAGER OFFICE DIRECTOR \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL  
 U. S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

FORM HQ-284  
 (4-68)

*msd*

**Congress of the United States**

**House of Representatives**

**Washington, D.C.**

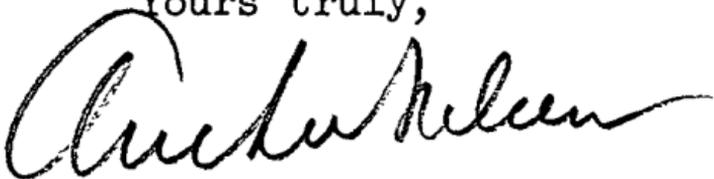
September 22, 1967 70

Congressional Liaison  
Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The attached communication  
is sent for your consideration.  
Please investigate the statements  
contained therein and forward me  
the necessary information for re-  
ply, returning the enclosed corre-  
spondence with your answer.

Yours truly,



Ancher Nelsen M. C.

September 10, 1970

Senator Albert J. Lee  
Washington D.C.

Dear Senator Lee,

The recent A.E.C. decision to allow N.S.P. to open on a limited basis its Monticello nuclear power plant was very disappointing. It raises several important questions. Why is the A.E.C. responsible for both promoting and regulating atomic power? Why can't a state pass laws for stiffer regulations on nuclear power plants. Radiation is cumulative. Any amount has the potential of causing serious health problems such as

cancer and birth defects.  
It also creates environmental  
problems. Minnesota is  
trying to protect its people,  
water and air from nuclear  
pollution. Why not pass  
stiffer standards than the  
A.E.C. Now is the time for  
action not 20, 40 or 80 years  
from now when the effects  
are proven and it is too late.  
The age of business before  
all else is over. It is time  
to consider the welfare of all  
people.

Yours truly  
Mrs. Daniel Klassen

former Albert Lea  
resident  
(1902 Warren Apt 107  
Mankato Minn 56001)

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



M. C.

Congressional Liaison  
Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20545