



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

DOCKETED  
USNRC

'99 MAR 22 A11:52

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF  
RULEMAKING AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Mr. Mervyn Tilden  
Interfaith Stewards of Creation  
P.O. Box 3682  
Gallup, NM 87301

March 22, 1999

Dear Mr. Tilden:

SERVED MAR 22 1999

Your letter of March 20, 1999 explains your heartfelt spiritual views, which happen to be quite similar to my own. As a judge, I assure you that I consider each question before me from a fresh perspective, bringing my experience, my knowledge and the law to bear on the issue presented to me. As a fallible human being, I am not always "correct" in my determination; but I do understand the importance of what I am doing and my heart is set on being an impartial judge applying the law the best I can.

When you say, "Our views must be incorporated into the proceedings as well.", I am concerned about the implication. All views are welcome in the legislative process and can therefore be heard by the NRC when it makes rules and by the Congress and the President when they make laws. However, judges are bound by the law and not all views are relevant.

As to your comment about environmental racism and environmental justice, I can of course make no response. That issue is still before me.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter B. Bloch".

Peter B. Bloch, Administrative Judge  
Presiding Officer in the HRI Case

SECY-EHD-001

20121

Peter Bloch, Presiding Officer  
The Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
11545 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Mervyn Tilden  
Interfaith Stewards of Creation  
P.O. Box 3682  
Gallup, NM 87301

RE: In the Matter of Hydro Resources, Inc. (HRI)

Dear Judge Bloch,

March 20, 1999

I am writing to let you know of the heartfelt disappointment that we feel in regards to the manner you have disregarded the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) rules and regulations that have been imposed upon us as citizens of the United States who have due process rights under the law by granting every request made by HRI *and* the NRC regardless of the fact that both parties *are not* residents who must suffer the consequences of the proposed uranium mines in Church Rock and Crownpoint, NM if you grant HRI a license.

We, the Interfaith Stewards of Creation, will be submitting petitions that have been signed by many people who are concerned with the on-going proceedings and the perceived exclusion of whoever expresses their concerns as this is not a Dine' (Navajo) issue but rather, a human issue. Our future as human beings is at stake and we cannot be silent in the matter of HRI.

Again, we who are "created in the image and likeness of God" hold sacred our "view of the earth and of the universe" as "we strive to live out our covenant relationship with our Creator by being responsible stewards and caretakers of Earth" and "its living and natural resources". Our views must be incorporated into the proceedings as well.

We urge the NRC and the Atomic Safety Licensing Board to cease the practice of environmental racism especially since the majority of The People depend upon the water supply that HRI intends to contaminate for generations to come should their In-situ leach (ISL) uranium mine be allowed by the issuance of a license. As most victims of this ISL project will be low-income Navajos we call for the NRC to comply with President Clinton's Executive Order on Environmental Justice 12898.

We are asking for an immediate reply in this matter. Thank you in advance for your response.

Sincerely,



Mervyn Tilden, ISC

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	3/21/99	# of pages	(1)
To	Peter Bloch	From	Mervyn Tilden		
Co./Dept.	NRC	Co.	ISC		
Phone #	301/415-7453	Phone #	505/488-5520		
Fax #	5599	Fax #	242-5609		

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of  
HYDRO RESOURCES, INC.

Docket No.(s) 40-8968-ML

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing LTR BLOCH TO TILDEN DTD 3/22 have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, except as otherwise noted and in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

Office of Commission Appellate  
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Washington, DC 20555

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Docket No.(s)40-8968-ML  
LTR BLOCH TO TILDEN DTD 3/22

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Dated at Rockville, Md. this  
22 day of March 1999

  
Office of the Secretary of the Commission