

JUN 2 1980

Mr. John Bishop  
27123 Eastvale Road  
Rolling Hills, California 90274

Dear Mr. Bishop:

I am pleased to respond to your April 18th letter to the President which was referred to me for reply. In your letter you expressed concern about delays in the licensing of nuclear power plants such as the Diablo Canyon facility.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, in the year following the Three Mile Island accident, has devoted a major part of its resources to evaluating what happened and applying the "lessons learned" to improving nuclear plant safety. Among the actions taken to improve the way the NRC does its job, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation has been recently reorganized to provide more emphasis on management matters identified by the various Three Mile Island investigations. The new organization provides special emphasis on human factors in safety and an interdisciplinary systems approach to licensing reviews, operating problems and generic issues.

The post-Three Mile Island efforts within the NRC and industry had a significant impact on the licensing of nuclear plants. However, priority has been assigned to four plants, including Diablo Canyon Unit 1, where construction is essentially complete. Our evaluation of the Diablo Canyon Plant for the results of the "lessons learned" from Three Mile Island and for a license that may allow low-power testing is nearing completion and will be documented in a safety evaluation report. When our safety evaluation report is issued, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board must rule on a motion before it which seeks to reopen the public hearings on Three Mile Island issues. Moreover, the appeals on seismic and security matters, which were previously reviewed and approved by the Licensing Board, are still pending before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board. The staff has not changed its previous favorable conclusions regarding these matters.

In view of the above considerations, there have been unavoidable delays on plants close to completion such as Diablo Canyon. However, we are proceeding with the review of Diablo Canyon on the highest priority basis in order minimize delays on a decision.

I trust that the above has been responsive to your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
H. R. Denton

5/30/80  
HSD

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

\*See previous yellow  
\*ELD OCA

5/23/80 5/ /80

8006200540

OFFICE ▶	*DL:LB #3	*DL:LB #3	*DL:AD	*DL:D	NRE	NRE
SURNAME ▶	BCBuckley:mec	ASchwencer	RLTedesco	DGEisenhut	EGCase	HRDenton
DATE ▶	5/ 20 /80	5/20/80	5/20/80	5/29/80	5/ 20 /80	5/ 20 /80

STANDARD TELETYPE UNIT

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5/ 23/80 5/ /80

8006200 540

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

OFFICE	*DL:LB #3	*DL:LB #3	*DL:AD	DL:AD	NRR	NRR
SURNAME	BCBuckley:mec	ASchwencer	RLTedesco	DGEisenhut	EGCase	HRDenton
DATE	5/ 20 /80	5/ 20 /80	5/ 20 /80	5/ 29 /80	5/...../80	5/...../80



6093002

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*[Handwritten signature]*

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

ELD *[initials]* OCA

5/ 23 /80 *see comments above* 5/ /80 8006200 540

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SURNAME	BCBuckley:mec	ASchwencer	RLTedesco	DGEisenhut	EGCase	HRDenton
DATE	5/ 20 /80	5/ 20 /80	5/ 20 /80	5/ /80	5/ /80	5/ /80

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*Jack King*

FROM: John W. Bishop Rolling Hills, CA	ACTION CONTROL	DATES	CONTROL NO.
	COMPL DEADLINE	5/13/80	08849
TO: The President (cc: Ahearne)	ACKNOWLEDGMENT		DATE OF DOCUMENT
	INTERIM REPLY		4/18/80
	FINAL REPLY		PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF:
	FILE LOCATION		<input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN <input type="checkbox"/> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OTHER: <u>Denton</u>

DESCRIPTION  LETTER  MEMO  REPORT  OTHER

Concern re the delay in licensing of the Diablo Canyon plant

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS

CLASSIFIED DATA		SECY 80-0814	
DOCUMENT/COPY NO.	CLASSIFICATION		
NUMBER OF PAGES	CATEGORY		
POSTAL REGISTRY NO.	<input type="checkbox"/> NSI <input type="checkbox"/> RD <input type="checkbox"/> FRD		
ASSIGNED TO:	DATE	INFORMATION ROUTING	LEGAL REVIEW
Denton	4/25/80	Denton Case PPAS Snyder Griffiths Vollmer	<input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> COPY NO LEGAL OBJECTIONS NOTIFY: <input type="checkbox"/> EDO ADMIN & CORRES BR EXT. _____ COMMENTS, NOTIFY: EXT. _____
<i>Y. G. ...</i>			ASSIGNED TO: Rass Hamauer Matten
<i>D. ...</i>			JCAE NOTIFICATION RECOMMENDED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

NRC FORM 232 (11-75)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS  
PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

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NRC SECRETARIAT

TO:  Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exec. Dir./Oper. \_\_\_\_\_  Gen. Counsel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cong. Liaison \_\_\_\_\_  Solicitor \_\_\_\_\_  
 Public Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Incoming: John Bishop  
 From: Rolling Hills, CA  
 To: Pre Carter  
 cc: Ahearne Date 4/18/80  
 Subject: urges the ~~xxxxx~~ moratorium on licensing  
 of nuc plants be lifted

- Prepare reply for signature of:
  - Chairman \_\_\_\_\_
  - Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_
  - EDO, GC, CL, SOL, PA, SECY \_\_\_\_\_
  - Signature block omitted \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Return original of incoming with response \_\_\_\_\_

- For direct reply\*
- For appropriate action
- For information
- For recommendation

*Suspense: May 8*

Rec'd Off. EDO  
 Date... 4-25-80  
 Time... 10:00

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

For the Commission: billie  
 \*Send three (3) copies of reply to Secy Mail Facility



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27123 Eastvale Road  
Rolling Hills, CA 90274

50-275

April 18, 1980

President Jimmy Carter  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1900 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Carter:

The U.S. still is importing large quantities of oil and will continue to do so until the licensing and building of nuclear plants is allow to proceed.

In California alone about 400,000 barrels per day of low-sulfur Indonesian fuel is being used by oil burning electric power plants. Because of the high price of this oil (approximately \$35-\$40), electric rates are sky-rocketing. San Diego rates have just increased 29% and Southern California Edison has requested a 50% increase to cover increased fuel oil costs.

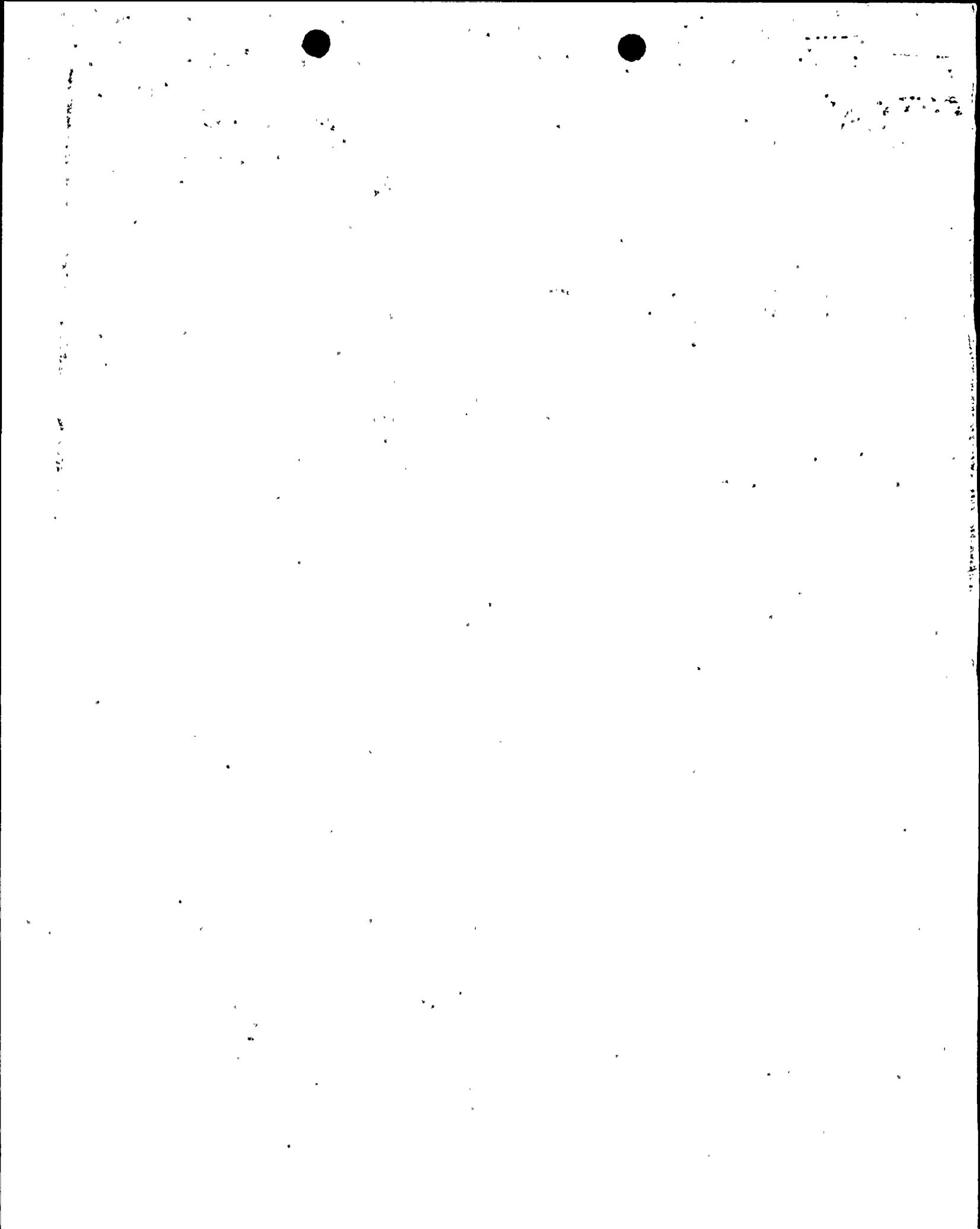
At the same time, the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant licensing delay continues. This plant alone would reduce oil burning by about 60,000 barrels per day and result in lower electric rates.

Perhaps an even more critical short term problem is a developing electric power shortage in California. It is very likely that black-outs will occur this summer if we have a hot spell. If this happens the people will be damn mad at those responsible - the President, Governor Brown and NRC.

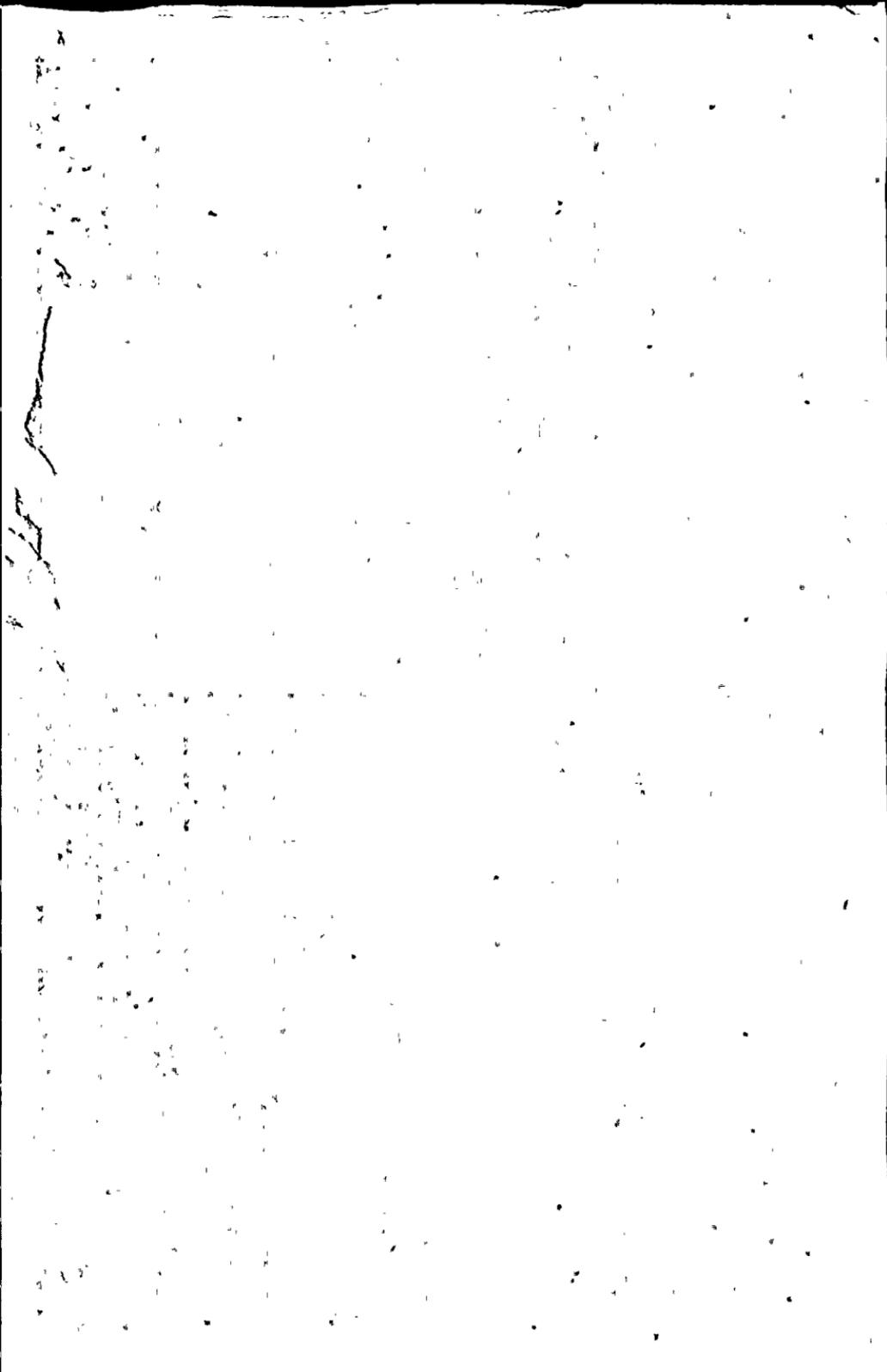
Sincerely,

  
John W. Bishop

cc: Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
Senator S. I. Hayakawa  
Senator Alan Cranston  
Congressman Robert K. Dornan  
Mayor Tom Bradley  
Joseph Ahearn - NRC







80-0814

Logging Date 4/24/80

NRC SECRETARIAT

- Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_
- Exec. Dir./Oper. \_\_\_\_\_  Gen. Counsel \_\_\_\_\_
- Cong. Liaison \_\_\_\_\_  Solicitor \_\_\_\_\_
- Public Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  Secretary \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

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*Suspense: May 8*

Rec'd Off. EDO  
 Date... 4-25-80  
 Time... 2:02

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

For the Commission: billie

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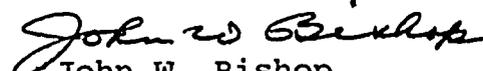
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