



32 St. Anthony Street
Lewisburg, PA 17837
February 14, 1980

2/14/80

Victor Gilinsky
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Gilinsky:

I am a student at Bucknell University who is very concerned about the future of nuclear power. My concern with nuclear power began, like so many other Americans, with the accident at Three Mile Island. Since that time I've tried to be as objective as possible and gather as much information on the subject as I could. I was at a meeting with Mr. Ahearne last April, and he has sent me information on aspects of N.R.C. policy since then. Most of my information from the alternative perspective has come from Dr. Judith Johnsrud who was my professor at the time of the T.M.I. accident last March.

I've only known Dr. Johnsrud for slightly more than a year, but I have only the highest admiration and respect for her as a person. Her belief that nuclear power is a dangerous technology is a matter of public record. For more than ten years she has, as I'm sure you're aware, committed herself to defending the public through the intervention process. I believe the intervention process is a necessary and vital part of the licensing hearings. However, it seems the N.R.C. has reversed its policy concerning the necessity of public intervention.

This apparent reversal of policy has been made very clear in recent weeks by actions taken by the N.R.C. in conjunction with Pennsylvania Power and Light. Dr. Johnsrud, as director of the Environmental Coalition on Nuclear Power, is representing the public in the licensing hearings on P.P.L.'s Susquehanna Steam Electric Station. However, P.P.L. and the N.R.C. seem to be doing everything possible to keep Dr. Johnsrud from intervening in the hearings, or at the very least seriously limiting her ability to do so. She was sent some 2700 interrogatories (16 main questions each containing 150 sub-questions) which she was told she must answer or be thrown out of the hearings. The interrogatories were split between contentions of environmental impact and safety. Dr. Johnsrud answered the interrogatories concerning environmental contentions but, as expected, the answers were not accepted by the N.R.C. Dr. Johnsrud finds herself in the position of being either severely limited in her capacity as public intervener or thrown out of the hearings altogether.

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As a concerned citizen who believes that the intervention process is a vital method of presenting important safety and environmental concerns, I am appalled at the N.R.C.'s underhanded efforts to have Dr. Johnsrud removed from the hearings. Swamping interveners with impossibly unanswerable interrogatories has not been standard procedure in the past, and I must assume that this tactic is designed specifically to limit intervention in the Berwick hearings. Both the Kemeny Commission and your own Rogovin Commission have stressed the need for more comprehensive and open licensing hearings. In this case however, it appears as if the N.R.C. is trying to "streamline" the hearings to save time and money. If Dr. Johnsrud is severely limited or thrown out of the hearings, the public's confidence in the N.R.C. to hold fair and open licensing hearings will be seriously undermined.

I am writing this letter solely out of concern for the necessity of fair and honest licensing hearings. Dr. Johnsrud has no knowledge of my writing this letter, I'm writing simply because of personal outrage at the methods the N.R.C. and P.P.E. are taking to limit public input into the licensing procedure. I hope you will take note and realize that there are many people who believe as I do, that public input is vital to decisions made in a free society.

I hope I have conveyed my concern regarding this matter. I would appreciate a response addressing itself to this matter as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

William G. Warden IV

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
PENNSYLVANIA POWER AND LIGHT)
COMPANY)
)
(Susquehanna Steam Electric)
Station, Units 1 and 2))
)
)

Docket No.(s) 50-387
50-388

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document(s) upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Office of the Secretary of the Commission in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.712 of 10 CFR Part 2 - Rules of Practice, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Rules and Regulations.

Dated at Washington, D.C. this
14th day of March 1978.

Peggy T. Sawring
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
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PENNSYLVANIA POWER AND LIGHT)
COMPANY, ET AL.)
)
(Susquehanna Steam Electric)
Station, Units 1 and 2)

Docket No.(s) 50-387
50-388

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