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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY

DOCKET NUMBER
PROD. & UTIL. FAC. 30-387

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

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March 31, 1981

3/31/81

Hon. John F. Ahearne, Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H. St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Ahearne,

Last month, the NRC revealed in testimony before the House Appropriations committee that licensing delays for eleven near-term licensees have grown to an estimated 80 months. This news has been a source of some consternation among Pennsylvanians, because several of the affected plants are in our state.

The enclosed letter, from the Woolrich company discusses a case in point. The Susquehanna Unit No. 1 plant, of Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, it is stated, will be ready for operation fully six months before it is scheduled to receive its license. The letter goes on to calculate that the delay of six months will add over \$200 million to the total cost of the plant, a burden which must eventually be borne by the ratepayers.

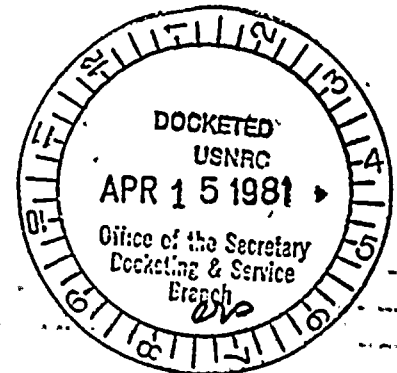
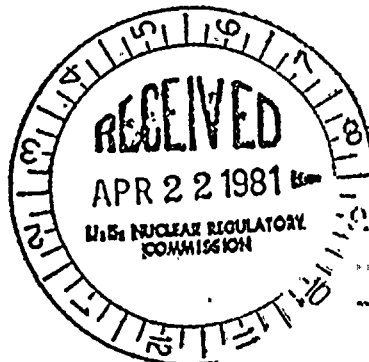
On the one hand, it would be reckless and irresponsible for the NRC to proceed with licensing without adequate consideration of safety issues, or without allowing the public an adequate opportunity to participate in the licensing process. On the other hand, however, must be balanced the need to eliminate wastage of the taxpayers' and ratepayers' monies. I will be following with great interest your efforts to redeploy NRC'S resources, in order that both the goals of assuring adequate safety and minimizing the unnecessary costs are achieved.

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Sincerely,

Allen E. Ertel
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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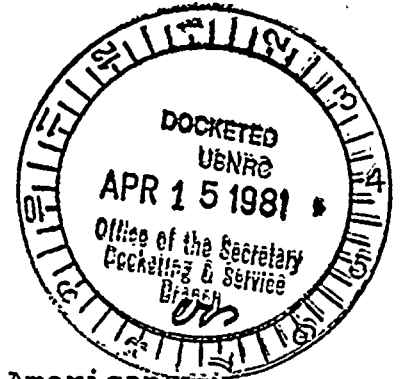
Woolrich, Inc.

Woolrich, PA 17779 (717) 769-6464

ROSWELL BRAYTON
President and General Manager

February 27, 1981

The Honorable Allen E. Ertel
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515



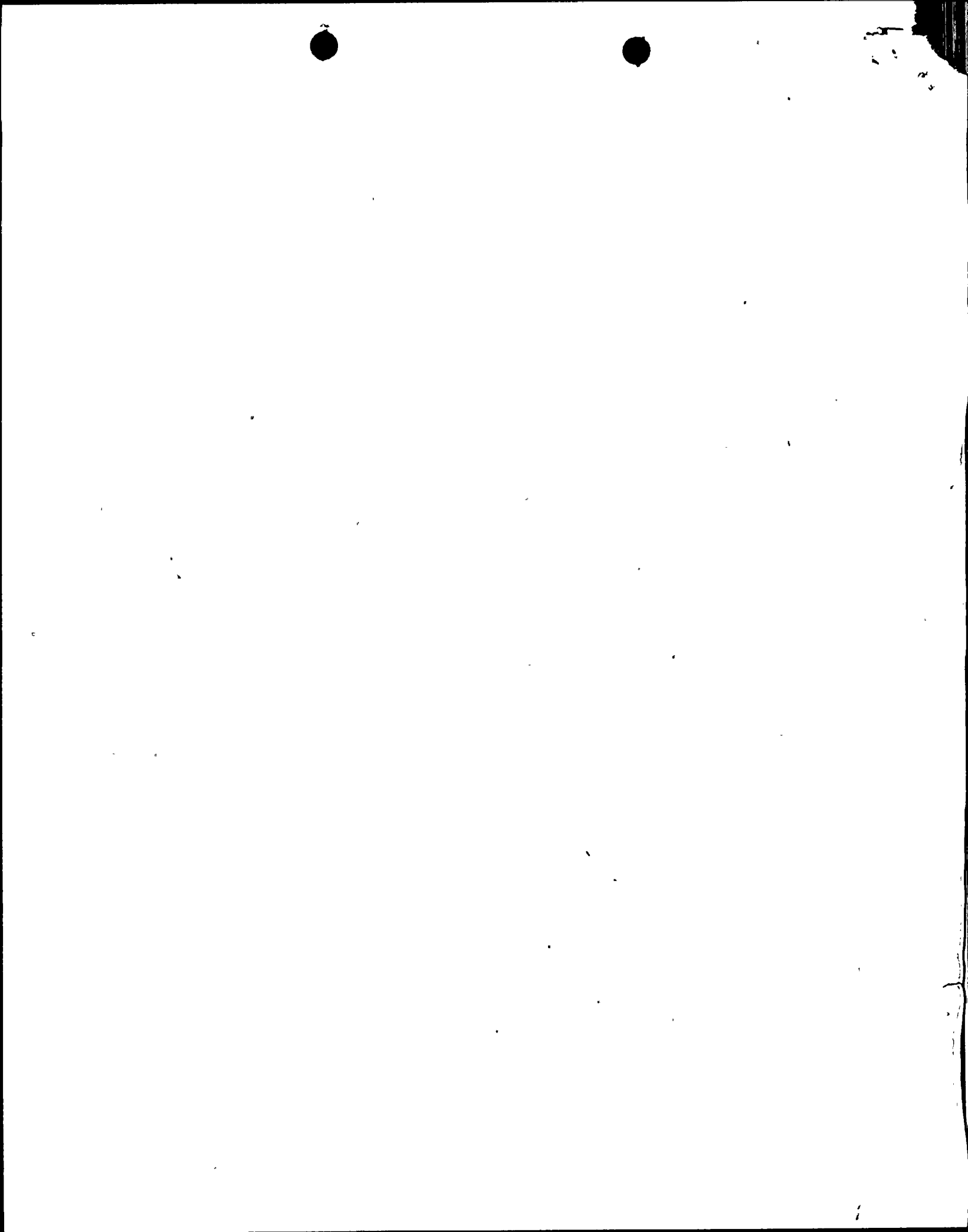
STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

The directors of Woolrich Woolen Mills, like most Americans, realize the need to reduce inflation and increase our gross national productivity. We wish to stress that if industry is to progress it must not be stifled by over-regulation imposed on it by agencies or commissions whose motivations or procedures are completely diverse to the needs of industry and our economy.

The case in point is that the N. R. C. keeps extending its licensing schedule of nuclear power plants. According to Chairman Ahearne of the N. R. C. in his report of January 30, 1981, to the Honorable Tom Bevill, chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, there are ten nuclear plants under construction and scheduled for licensing hearings. It is apparent that there will be considerable lost time in getting these nuclear power plants into operation because of the N. R. C.'s present licensing schedule.

In the case of the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company, it appears that its Susquehanna Unit No. 1 will be ready for operation six months before it is fully licensed--November, 1982, according to Chairman Ahearne's report. Each month of this delay will add interest and other expenses between \$30 and \$35 million to the total cost of this nuclear power plant. A delay of six months will add over \$200 million to the construction cost, which sum eventually has to be paid by the consumers--including residential, commercial, and industrial.

Furthermore, every unnecessary delay in getting a nuclear power plant into operation results in thousands more barrels of oil being imported into the United States. All of us are aware that our basic national interest lies in becoming less dependnet on imported oil whether it is for energy or any other



Statement on Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Page 2

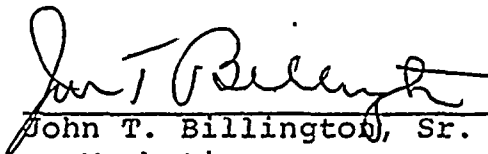
February 27, 1981

use. Besides being a matter of national security, the importation of so much foreign oil is a major cause of our unfavorable balance of trade, the weakening of the American dollar, and our high inflation rate.

The Woolrich Woolen Mills has been expanding its business for 151 years and plans for future growth. However, this is dependent on our ability to sell at competitive prices and make a profit for reinvesting in the business. Electricity is a major expense. Therefore, a significant delay on the part of the N. R. C. will reflect in future rates of the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company and adversely affect our ability to expand.

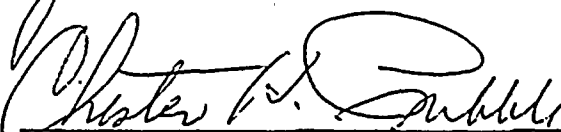
Prompt and effective measures by the N. R. C. are required, such as reassigning some of their staff to speed up the licensing procedures and streamlining the hearings, eliminating nonessential or repetitious details. In our opinion, there is no single federal agency that has more effect on reducing our dependence on foreign oil imports and getting our economy going than the N. R. C.. We hope you will use your influence to have them get in step with the needs of our country.

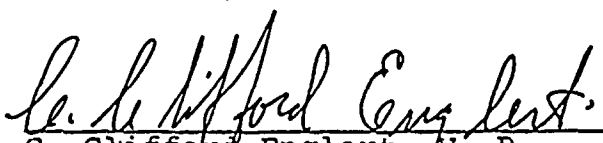

Roswell Brayton, President

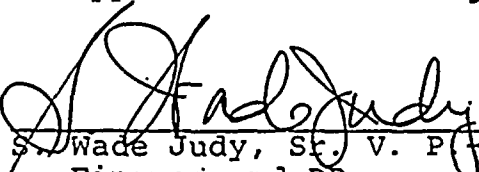

John T. Billington, Sr. V. P.-
Marketing


John Rich VI, Director


M. B. Rich, Director

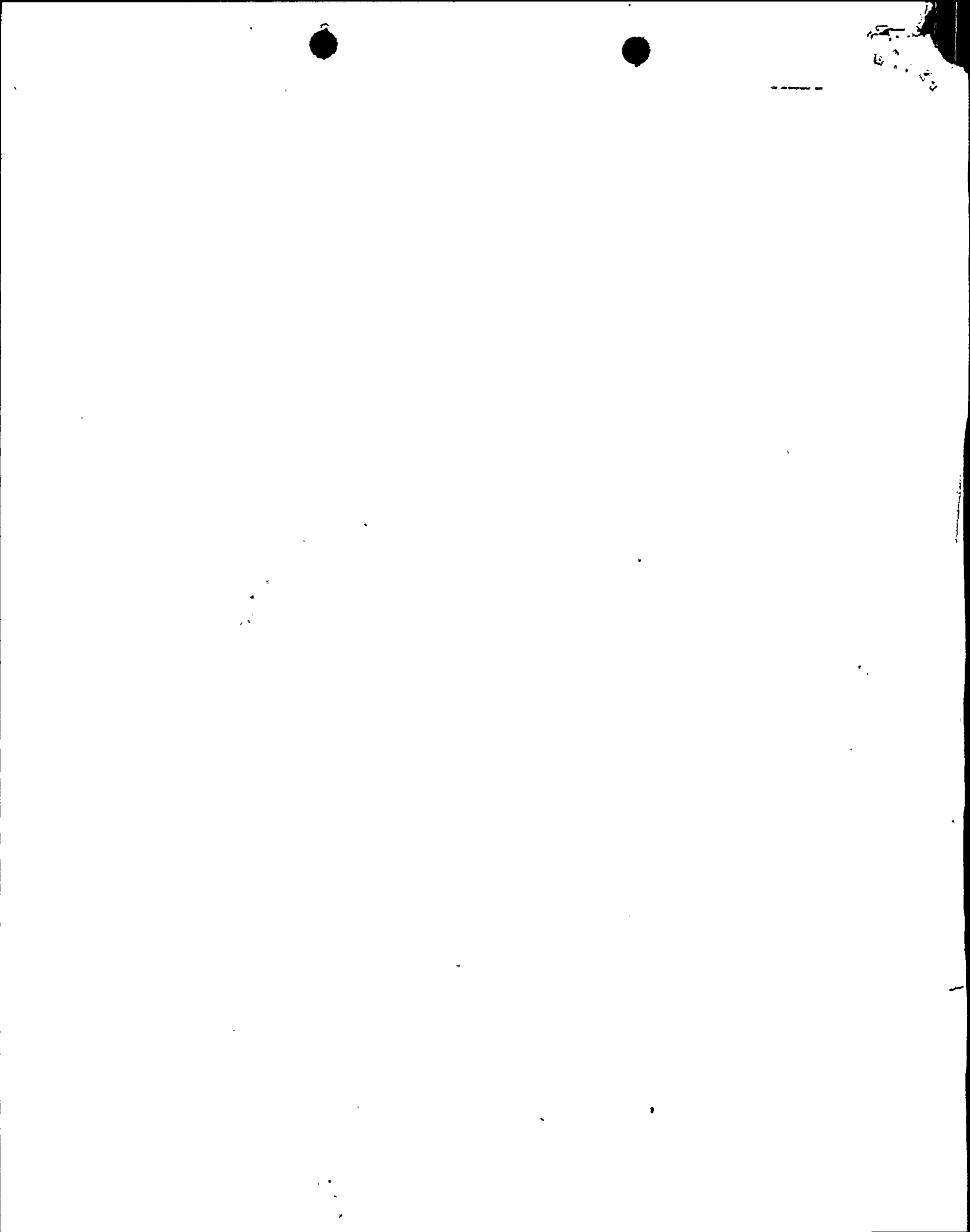

Chester H. Pribble, V. P.
Apparel Manufacturing


C. Clifford Englert, V. P.
Special Services


Wade Judy, Sr. V. P.
Finance and DP


Leslie D. Noelk, Secretary-Treas.


William E. Ferry, V. P.-
Merchandising



FROM: Robert K. Campbell Pennsylvania Power & Light Co.	ACTION CONTROL	DATES	CONTROL NO. 10170
	COMPL DEADLINE		
TO: Chairman Ahearne	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	DATE OF DOCUMENT 2-12-81	
	INTERIM REPLY		
	FINAL REPLY	PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN <input type="checkbox"/> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
	FILE LOCATION	OTHER:	

DESCRIPTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/> MEMO <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS
Delay of the licensing process for the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station, Unit 1	NO RESPONSE REQUIRED, MEETING WITH APPLICANT TO BE HELD ON 3-18-81. (B/g 3-17-81)

CLASSIFIED DATA	
DOCUMENT/COPY NO.	CLASSIFICATION
NUMBER OF PAGES	CATEGORY
POSTAL REGISTRY NO.	<input type="checkbox"/> NSI <input type="checkbox"/> RD <input type="checkbox"/> FRD
SECY 81-0204	

ASSIGNED TO:	DATE	INFORMATION ROUTING	LEGAL REVIEW	<input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> COPY
Denton, NRR	2-24-81	Shapar	ASSIGNED TO:	DATE
f/approp action		Case 4. Murley		
Eisenhut	2/26/81	Denton 5. Snyder		
<i>Jed</i>		1. PPAS 6 Vollmer		
		2. Hanauer		
		3. Ross		
JCAE NOTIFICATION RECOMMENDED:			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

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		3. Ross		
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RC FORM 232
(11-75)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS
PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

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81-0204

No. ~~80-XXXXXX~~

Logging Date 2/20/81

NRC SECRETARIAT

- TO: Commissioner _____ Date _____
 Exec. Dir./Oper. _____ Gen. Counsel _____
 Cong. Liaison _____ Solicitor _____
 Public Affairs _____ Secretary _____
 _____ Inspector & Auditor _____
 _____ Policy Evaluation _____

Incoming: Robert Campbell, President
From: Pennsylvania Power & Light Company

To: Ahearne Date 2/12/81

Subject: delay of the licensing process for the INK
Susquehanna Steam Elec Stat #1

No RESP
BE HEL

- Prepare reply for signature of:
 Chairman _____
 Commissioner _____
 EDO, GC, CL, SOL, PA, SECY, IA, PE
 Signature block omitted

 Return original of incoming with response

- For direct reply*
 For appropriate action
 For information

Rec'd Off. EDO
Date... 2/24/81
Time... 9:15

Remarks: Cyps to: RF, Docket, OPA

For the Commission: billie

*Send three (3) copies of reply to Secy Correspondence and Records Branch