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 AUTH. NAME: HUNTINGTON, M. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Affiliation Unknown  
 RECIP. NAME: RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Division of Site Safety & Environmental Analysis

SUBJECT: Opposes proposed operation of nuclear reactions at Berwick, PA, Reviews DES as unfair to alternate sources of energy & criticizes cost/benefit analysis.

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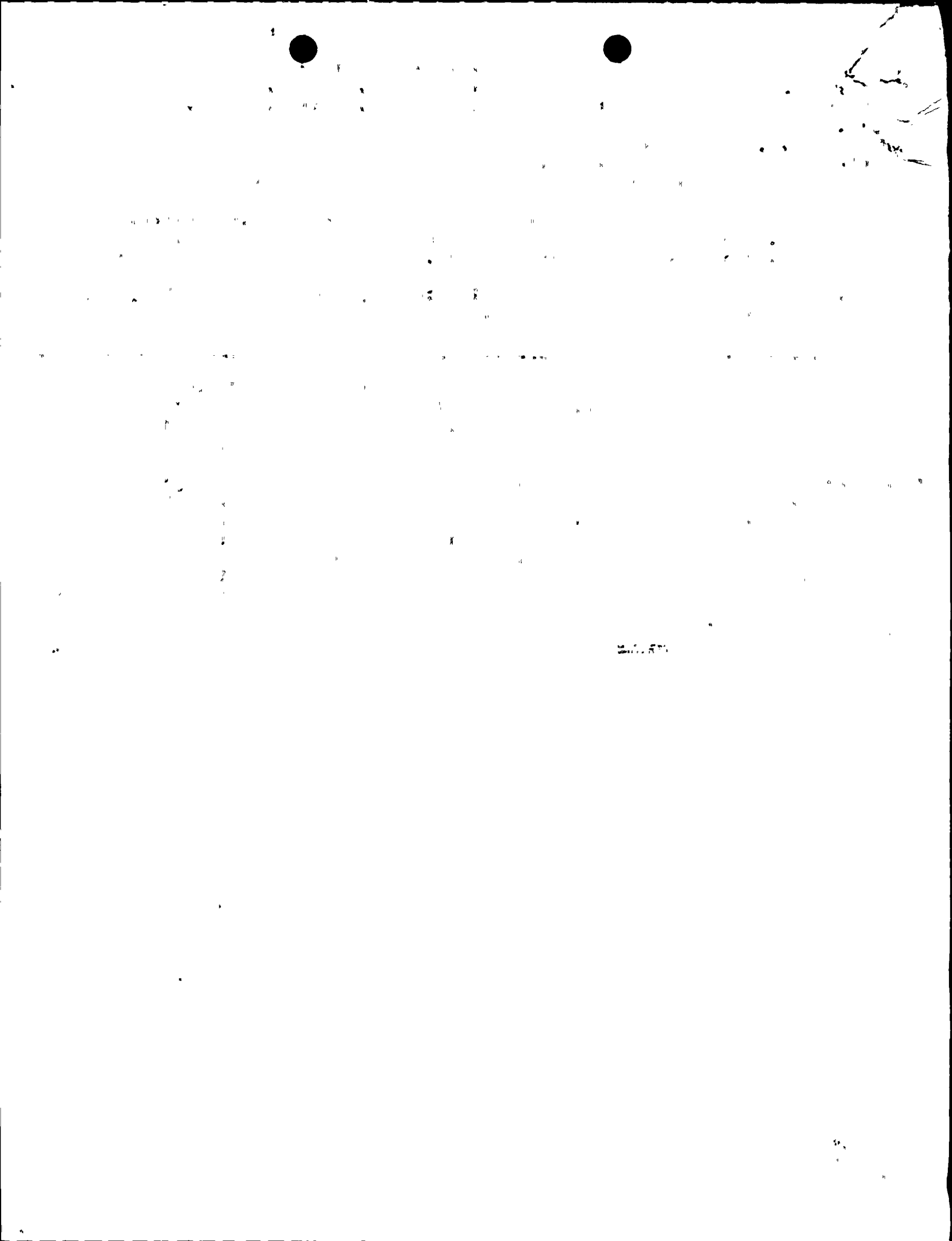
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RE: Mike Huntingto  
Rd #1  
Hunlock Creek, Pa.  
18621

REGULATORY BOARD FILE COPY  
8-19-79

Sirs,

I am writing in response to your request for my input on the Draft Environmental Statement for the Steam Electric Station at Berwick, Pa. Well, much as I have tried to plow through the voluminous information that it contains, the short amount of time that I have been allowed for this task makes me skeptical of the N.R.C.'s sincerity about being genuinely interested in my input. The advertisement of the availability of this report was made only approximately 1 1/2 months ago in our local paper

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Since it does take time to receive one through the mail, the amount of time to assess this mass of data has been severely limited. I am not an expert on these matters and dealing with <sup>so</sup> much unfamiliar territory does not make for quick progress either. But just because I am not overly qualified in areas of nuclear science or ecological balance does not mean that my opinions and observations are without value. I live less than 10 air miles from this proposed facility and work practically within the shadow of its cooling towers. I also used to live about 15 miles from T.M.I. but evacuated from there and did not feel very thrilled to returning to a town that gets a good portion of its drinking water from the Susquehanna River.

at a point below TMI. I don't want to have to leave my home ever again. because of fears of my safety due to nuclear radiation! Since TMI, I have looked deep and hard into the area of nuclear power.

I am convinced that we do not at the present time have the technology to deal with the requirements of infallibility that it ~~is~~ demands. I am also of the opinion that the N.R.C. has failed in its responsibility to look first after the better interests of the U.S. public. With specific reference to the Environmental statement mentioned, ~~and~~ and the amount of it that I have had the time to study, I have several observations: P.P&H is basing its cost benefit analysis on a 60% to 70% efficiency factor.

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● Generally, the performance of the nuclear industry has in fact been much much lower — "the cumulative to date capacity factor for all plants from the first year of operation through 1976 was 53.7%. Moreover, the plants show a decline in performance as they get older. During the first two years of commercial operation, they average 54%, rise to an average of 63% during the next 6 years, and thereafter decline to an average of 39%", ...

\* The Silent Bomb

Peter Faulkner

P.P.+L is not telling the truth to their rate payers as to the true economics of this plant.

The Environmental Statement is also invalid due to a shocking lack of consideration of the events at Three Mile Island — I saw one footnote that regarded some data as pending! This is outrageous! T.M.I. has not even been fully assessed, yet the

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significance of any findings from this event seem to be regarded as having little relation to already established findings for this specific environmental statement.

Another major point that I contend in this report is the establishment of the uranium mining and milling necessary for this plant as having an "acceptable" impact upon the environment. Acceptable to whom, I ask? The N.R.C. itself has been unable to disagree with Dr. Chauncey Kefford's findings that 1.2 ~~million~~<sup>million</sup> people per year will die in the future from the effects of radon gas emitted from the tailings produced just to fuel T.M.I. Now, surely the Susquehanna Steam Electric Station is going to require an equally substantial amount of fuel for its operation too.

Louis

are we to be asked to define as "acceptable" the premature deaths of another group of 1.2 million people per year in this situation too?!

Something not found in this report is very good coverage of alternatives — and their impact on the environment — to the S.S.E.S. No mention of solar energy, conservation, cogeneration, bio mass, etc. Coal was not treated fairly or totally. The benefits that a coal-fired S.S.E.S. would have on the local economy is vastly underrated.

Other points that I highly object to, which probably should be headed under the cost/benefit analysis, are the areas of waste disposal and insurance coverage. I resent being called upon as a U.S. tax payer to support P.P.T. along with all of the other nuclear



Freedom of choice has been trampled upon. The N.R.C has a dismal record of putting the Public's health, safety, and welfare ahead of the profit schemes of power utilities.

It is time for a turn around from this stance — past time!

I charge you with the task of fulfilling the duties as public protectors that you have been established for.

In total opposition to  
Nuclear generated electricity

Michael J. Huntington

Utilities ; with responsibility for disposal of rad waste and absolutely unjust insurance limitations — also at my expense — under the Price Anderson act. If P.P + L were held responsible — as they should be — for the permanent and safe disposal of the mill tailings, rad waste, and worn out reactor [when they are through with it] the economics would be a little different. If they were only required to pay their own insurance — without unrealistic limitations such as \$50 million ceilings on liability claims — the economics of this plant would be prohibitive. I do not want any part of subsidizing these aspects of the nuclear industry. They have created a false state of economy for the utilities and as a free citizen, I feel that my own