

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 14, 1982

Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Hendrie:

I am writing to bring to your attention the enclosed comments from my constituents, Mr. & Mrs. William P. Hayden.

I shall appreciate your reviewing this correspondence and preparing a report on the stated concerns. Please send your reply in duplicate to the following address:

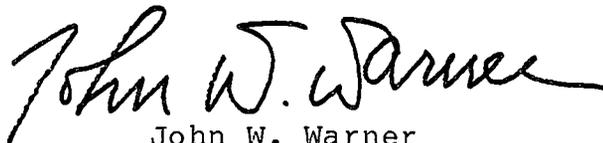
Office of Senator John W. Warner
235 Federal Building
180 West Main Street
Abingdon, Virginia 24210

My constituents and I appreciate your assistance in this matter. I am grateful for all you can do to review this matter within the existing laws, rules and regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Thank you for your time and courtesy.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


John W. Warner

JWW/jah
Enclosure

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113 Deer Springs Road
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185
April 19, 1982

The Honorable John W. Warner
2313 Dirksen Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

We are appalled and disconcerted about the two recent releases of radioactive elements from the Vepco Surry nuclear plant. The explanations and reassurances from Vepco and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission provide only mild comfort; the potential danger from radioactive gases is far too great to simply set aside with facile technical excuses.

We live in James City County, only a few miles from the Surry reactors. Until now, there have been no serious problems with plant operations. But two unexpected, small releases of radioactivity, following a fire and an apparent equipment failure, have thrust into shocking reality the unseen yet deeply feared dangers of nuclear-operated power.

The proximity of the plant to our home has spurred us to outrage. We learn with increasing frequency of major and minor nuclear "incidents," but little is done to improve or regulate the technology of nuclear energy so that danger and fear can be eliminated.

We believe it is likely that nuclear reactors represent a potential danger that outweighs the benefits of relatively inexpensive energy. However, the most practical and reasonable course now is to require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to more stringently monitor nuclear plant operations and to impose automatic financial penalties on companies that pollute our environment with radioactive gases.

We hope that you will use your abilities to improve this situation.

Sincerely,

William P. Hayden *D. Susan Hayden*

William P. Hayden
D. Susan Hayden