



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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26 JUL 1972

Mr. Daniel R. Muller
Assistant Director for
Environmental Projects,
Directorate of Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Muller:

This is in response to your letter dated 23 June 1972 addressed to Mr. Herbert F. DeSimone, Assistant Secretary for Environment and Urban Systems, concerning the draft environmental impact statement and pertinent papers on the Three Miles Island Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania.

The concerned operating administrations and staff of the Department of Transportation have reviewed the material submitted and the Federal Aviation Administration noted the following:

"We have reviewed the subject Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and other than the comments noted in the Draft Detailed Statement by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission on the environmental considerations, Pages B9 and B10, Paragraphs 4a and 4b, we find no additional environmental impact on aeronautical activities.

"The question of the effect of smoke plumes on aircraft approaching from or departing to the south is still not definitive with respect to VFR traffic. In addition, the probable instance of fogging due to the operation of the cooling towers, which is estimated to be 39 hours a year, is extremely difficult to assess as to the impact on IFR operations in terms of delay; however, some minimal impact should be expected. It is our opinion that the tradeoff of the minimal delay versus the requirements for electrical power in the area must be balanced by the agency issuing the operating license.

The Department of Transportation has no objection to the issuance of an operating license for this project. The draft statement, however, did not indicate a resolvment of the fogging problem due to the plume emanating from the cooling towers which may interfere with aircraft operations at the Harrisburg Airport. This aspect of the project should be addressed in the final environmental impact statement.

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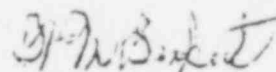
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So as to not unduly delay issuance of the operating license, it is recommended that the applicant resolve the situation by direct coordination with the Administrator, Eastern Region of the Federal Aviation Administration. He may be contacted as follows:

Administrator
Eastern Region, Federal
Aviation Administration
Federal Building
John F. Kennedy International Airport
Jamaica, New York 11430

The opportunity for this Department to review and comment upon the draft statement and other material submitted on the Three Miles Island Nuclear Station is appreciated. We would be pleased to receive a copy of the final statement and it is requested that a copy of the final statement also be sent to the Eastern Regional Administrator of Federal Aviation Administration.

Sincerely,



W. M. DENKERT
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Chief, Office of Marine Environment
and Systems