WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER YORK Work County Environmental Council

P. O. Box 285 York, Pennsylvania 17405

May 23, 1972

Mr. James Schlesinger Chairman Atomic Energy Commission Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Schlesinger:

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the York County Environmental Council. At our latest meeting on May 16, 1972, one of the Directors stated that serious problems were being encountered in the emergency core cooling system of the nuclear electric power plants. It was said that this system would probably not function as designed; and, therefore, might not be able to prevent the fuel core from melting if the main coolant is lost.

Due to the concentration of nuclear power plants in York County, there is an understandable concern about such reports, especially if they are factual. I would very much like to know of the present status of the safety system in question. In particular, I would like to know whether or not the system will perform its designed function. If so. what all the commotion is about; and, if not, what will be done to protect the public from the possibility of the accident the system was designed to guard against.

I would like to know, also, in the event of a serious accident involving the release of hazardous quantities of fission products, who is responsible for alerting the public; who is responsible for evacuating the public; and who is responsible for the damage done.

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w .2. Mr. James Schlesinger Page 2 May 23, 1972 If it is at all possible, I would appreciate this information a couple of days before our next Board meeting, scheduled for June 20, 1972. Thank you for your attention to these matters. Yours sincerely, Chauncey Kepford, Ph.D. 675-C. Colony Drive York, PA 17404 CK/jk 1590 504