



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555
October 30, 1979

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
TERA

Mr. William A. Nixon, III
RFD #2
P. O. Box 277A
Norridgewock, ME 04957

Dear Mr. Nixon:

I am very sorry that you received a form response to your letter of April 17, 1979.

With regard to the Maine Yankee Atomic Power Station, it is designed to withstand earthquakes of intensity appreciably greater than the probable maximum at the site based on the seismic history of the area. The earthquake that was centered about six miles from the plant in April 1979 caused no damage to the plant. All major structures including the reactor building and the auxiliary building are founded on bedrock and are adequate to support all imposed loadings. As to flooding, Maine Yankee has been designed against surges and waves caused by the probable maximum hurricane and is well above the highest tide observed in the area. With respect to sabotage, Maine Yankee meets NRC requirements for a physical protection system and security organization to provide protection with high assurance against successful industrial sabotage from inside or outside of the plant.

With regard to your question about Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, it would be safe for your mother to live there. The NRC has instruments to measure the radiation dose at 47 locations around Three Mile Island. These indicate that there is no danger from radiation. Even during the ten days following the Three Mile Island accident, technical staff members of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission concluded that there were minimal risks (that is, a very small number) of additional health effects to the offsite population.

Their study, a copy of which is enclosed, determined that the maximum cumulative dose that might have been received by an individual 0.5 miles east northeast of the site was 83 mrem, a dose that is less than that received in a year (more than 100 mrem) from natural background radiation by

1326 026

G

7911 140

128

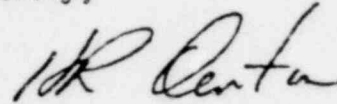
Mr. William A. Nixon, III

- 2 -

October 30, 1979

everyone. The collective exposure received by all people living within 50 miles of the plant was estimated to be 3300 person-rem, leading to an estimate of one potential excess cancer in that population over their remaining lifetimes, compared to 325,000 expected cancers due to other causes in the lifetimes of those same people.

Sincerely,



Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

1326 027



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

POOR ORIGINAL

SEP 14 1979

Mr. William A. Nixon, III
RFD 2
P.O. Box 277A
Norridgewock, ME 04957

Dear Mr. Nixon:

Your recent letter to President Carter concerning the accident at Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit 2 expressing your views on nuclear power was referred to this agency for response. We appreciate your concerns and assure you that every effort is being made to ensure the continued protection of the health and safety of the public not only at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, but also at all nuclear power plants.

We have taken or are taking a number of actions with respect to all nuclear power plants as a result of the Three Mile Island accident. Specifically, full-time inspectors have been assigned to each operating plant utilizing Babcock & Wilcox pressurized water reactors like those at Three Mile Island. In addition, the licensees of all these plants which were not already shutdown have voluntarily shut down their plants. We have issued confirmatory orders to the licensees of all Babcock & Wilcox reactors like those at Three Mile Island to assure that necessary plant modifications, additional training and revised operating procedures will be effected prior to resuming operation.

Licensees of all operating plants utilizing pressurized water reactors have been instructed to take specific actions with regard to the status of certain equipment, plant procedures, operator actions and facility designs. Licensees of all operating plants, including those utilizing boiling water reactors, have been instructed to provide us with additional information with regard to their facilities in light of the Three Mile Island accident. In addition, substantial effort is being expended within this agency to evaluate the factors which contributed to the Three Mile Island accident and to prevent a similar occurrence in the future.

We will carefully review all the information obtained and developed as a result of the Three Mile Island accident and take whatever further action is deemed appropriate.

Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton
Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

1326 028

Can you answer me that? Will you?
Sincerely,
William A. Nixon

XERO 10

Mr. Denton: This is not a response to my letter. You do not even have the decency to respond to a letter.

how do you expect

fire public

to respect

your opinion of what

is appropriate

←

William A. Nixon III
RFD 2, Box 277A
Larrigewock, ME 04957

April 17, 1979

PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

POOR ORIGINAL

initiative 74

Dear Mr. President:

Just moments ago, earth quake tremors shock my home and the homes of thousands of people all across central Maine and New Hampshire (according to the radio). Then I began to wonder how the Maine Yankee Nuclear Power plant fared, and what would it fare if an earthquake were to crack it open. Or how would it fare if hit by a tidal wave? Or if it were sabotaged?

My Mother and Father live in Harrisburg, Pa. My Mother contracted uterine cancer two years ago, and was given radiation therapy after the cancer was removed. Her body was damaged by the radiation treatments. Her intestines were burned so severely that four feet had to be removed. Spinal arthritis brought on by the radiation has bent her frame, and cataracts are growing on her eyes. This woman now weighs 105 lbs. and stands 5'4" whereas before radiation treatment she weighed 150 lbs and stood 5'8". She is 58 and looks older than my grandmother (who is 82). She is afraid to return to Harrisburg because of the radiation.

* Do you think it would be safe for her to live there? If not, where can she go to get away from the nuclear power plants? I would like to be further away from them, myself.

PS. I am opposed to Nuclear Power Plants!

Thank You
William A. Nixon III 1326 029