

REGULATORY DOCUMENT FILE COPY

June 28, 1979

The Honorable Robert S. Walker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Walker:

I am pleased to respond to your letter of May 23, 1979, inquiring as to any health hazards that people traveling in the central Pennsylvania area might be exposed to as a result of the accident at Three Mile Island Nuclear Station.

I want to assure you that there is no danger to people traveling to the Three Mile Island area from radioactivity that was discharged during the accident. Since about the first part of May, measurements of the direct radiation and analyses of air, water, milk and other foodstuffs have shown levels no higher than that of naturally occurring background radiation. There is no evidence of any residual radiation from the accident.

The highly radioactive water that was generated as a result of the accident is safely contained in two high integrity buildings, and is not being released to the Susquehanna River. Before the NRC finally approves methods for cleaning up and disposing of the water, it will prepare an environmental assessment and obtain public comments on this assessment. The NRC will not authorize any radioactive releases that are not well within regulatory limits that are designed to protect the health and safety of the public.

If you need more information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
Joseph M. Hendrie

7907160050

Cleared with all Cms. by SECY C/R.

Joseph M. Hendrie  
Chairman

DISTRIBUTION:

WGDooley  
JHSniezek  
BBassett  
NMHaller  
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CA (3)  
SECY (2)

Gertrter (6389)

OCA

6/27/79

OCM	OCM	CHC/PA
6/2/79	6/1/79	6/27/79

Also concurred by phone M. Parsont, SD

421 024

OFFICE	MPA	IE	MPA	MPA	EDO	SECY
SURNAME	WGDooley	JHSniezek/phone	BBassett	NMHaller	LVGossick	-TCombs
DATE	6/7/79	6/5/79	6/11/79	6/11/79	6/12/79	6/27/79

FROM: Rep. Robert S. Walker		ACTION CONTROL		DATES		CONTROL NO. 06389	
		COMPL DEADLINE		5/3/79			
		ACKNOWLEDGMENT				DATE OF DOCUMENT	
		INT'IM REPLY				5/23/79	
TO: Chairman Hendrie		FILE LOCATION				PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE	
						OR	
						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN	
						<input type="checkbox"/> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
						OTHER:	
DESCRIPTION <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/> MEMO <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER				SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS			
Concern re the economic impact of the TMI accident on the business community and requests assurance that there are no health hazards to travelers in the area				NPA will coordinate TMI lay corres & will be in contact w/offices involved to acquire input			
CLASSIFIED DATA							
DOCUMENT/COPY NO.		CLASSIFICATION					
NUMBER OF PAGES		CATEGORY					
POSTAL REGISTRY NO.		<input type="checkbox"/> NSI <input type="checkbox"/> RD <input type="checkbox"/> FRD		SECT 73-1576			
ASSIGNED TO:		DATE		INFORMATION ROUTING		LEGAL REVIEW	
Walker		5/23/79		Gossick Ryan		<input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> COPY	
				Cornell Jeanne Look		NO LEGAL OBJECTIONS	
				Sera		NOTIFY:	
				Davis		<input type="checkbox"/> EDO ADMIN & CORRESP	
				Minogue		EXT. _____	
				Benton		COMMENTS, NOTIFY:	
						EXT. _____	
						JOAE NOTIFICATION RECOMMENDED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

NRC FORM 232  
(11-75)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS

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PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

**POOR ORIGINAL**

421 025

No. 79-1576 Logging Date 5/28/79

NRC SECRETARIAT

TO: ☐ Commissioner ☐ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ Exec. Dir./Oper. ☐ Gen. Counsel  
☐ Cong. Liaison ☐ Solicitor  
☐ Public Affairs ☐ Secretary  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Incoming: Rep. Robert S. Walker  
 From: House of Representatives

To: Chairman Hendrie Date 5/23/79  
 Subject: Concerned about impact of TMI on business community and request personal assurance that it is not dangerous to travel this region of country.

☒ Prepare reply for signature of:

☒ Chairman Date Due Comm: June 8  
☐ Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ EDO, GC, CL, SOL, PA, SECY  
☐ Signature block omitted  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Return original of incoming with response

☐ For direct reply\*  
☐ For appropriate action  
☐ For information  
☐ For recommendation

Rec'd. Dir. EDO  
 Date... 5/29/79  
 Time... 11:10

Remarks: Cpy: RF, OCA to acknowledge.

For the Commission: gerry

\*Send three (3) copies of reply to Secy Mail Facility

NRC-62

ACTION SLIP

421 026