

R.D.#1 Box 370  
Vincentown, N.J. 08088  
March 16, 1979.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 "H" Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20555

To the NRC,

I attended the NRC public hearing in Salem Co., Thursday night, March 15, 1979 on the expansion of waste storage at the Salem facilities. This was my first experience at one of your meetings and I was quite impressed as to the quality of testimony exhibited by the public. I did not see misinformation quoted, or sensationalism expressed, but rather a mature and responsible concern for the welfare of people. What you saw was just a small representation of those of us who feel nuclear power is too dangerous, too expensive and absolutely unnecessary. There was noone actively supporting the nuclear industry that night. Why? Because the "silent majority" condones the advancement of nuclear energy? Or because most people are ignorant of the cover-ups, ignorant of the disaster that is sure to show itself before the industry closes and unconcerned because the utilities have reassured the public "not to worry"? I believe it is the latter. A good example can be seen in Senator Muskie's recent outcry in response to your closing five nuclear power plants because the emergency cooling systems' pipes were in question. The emergency core cooling systems must be adequate and in top operating condition in order to provide the necessary protection to the public from a nuclear meltdown (which might lead to thousands of lives lost). He would rather risk an accident, than close down a few plants, while studies are made. One of his arguments was that his citizenry in Maine, was sure that this would mean financial disaster to them as ratepayers and taxpayers. So what do they think would happen if there were an accident?

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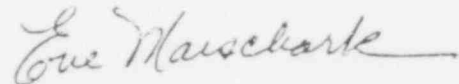
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They wouldn't get anywhere near a realistic return from any insurance coverage! And what would they rather have... money...or their health? I think Senator Muskie is insulting the intelligence of his own people with that kind of reasoning! I feel your move was a responsible one, in light of the consequences. Innocent before proven guilty works fine for people, but not where potential radioactive destruction is involved! I commend the NRC for taking action. My only hope is that it is indicative of a genuine and prevailing attitude in the NRC to begin to "regulate" this unforgiving technology, and not endorse the industry as did your predecessor, the Atomic Energy Commission. I hope you had your ears and minds open during these hearings. To increase the storage facilities at Salem is, in all honesty, condoning a permanent storage facility there.

Please... think about it.

Sincerely,



Eve D. Marschark