



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

June 1, 1979

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable William F. Goodling
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Goodling:

In my letter to you of March 15, 1979 I promised to provide you with information concerning the impact of the shutdown of 16 nuclear power reactors on the installed reserve margins of potentially affected utilities. The 16 plants were identified in a press release of the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) as those that UCS felt should be shutdown.

The impact on reliability council installed reserve margins of losing the output on the 16 nuclear power plants is indicated in the attachments to this letter prepared by the NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation; these data are based upon the April 1, 1979 submission of the country's electric reliability councils to DOE. The first attachment lists 12 stations (16 reactors), their component units, design electrical ratings by unit, and the reliability council within which the station is located. The second attachment is a map indicating the geographic boundaries of the nation's electric reliability council areas.

Attachment three is a table indicating the National Electric Reliability Council's April 1st estimate of dependable capacity, peak demand, and the resulting installed reserve margin. Information in the table applies to the summer and winter peaks of 1979 and 1979/80 respectively. The three columns on the right indicate the impact on dependable capability and installed reserve margin of removing the 16 plants from operation. Of course, scheduled maintenance and unforeseen outages will lower the operating (i.e., actual) reserves.

Attachment three indicates that for both the summer and winter peaks--for the years indicated--a decrease in the installed reserve margin would occur nationally as a result of closing the 16 stations. The decrease would be more severe for both winter and summer peaks in the following council areas: MAAC, NPCC (New England), TVA, and VACAR. It is important to note that these figures do not take conservation into account. Conservation should be considered in any effort to assess the real impacts of closing down particular plants. The major impact would be in VACAR where the installed reserve margin would fall to 4% for the summer peak.

402 221

10

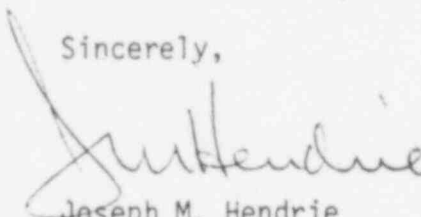
7908010054

The Honorable William Goodling

-2-

I hope that this information is responsive to your request. If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to call upon us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Hendrie". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman

Enclosures:
As stated

402 222