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Secretary of the Commission
 Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Landow Building
 Washington, D.C. 20555
 Att'n: Docketing and Service Branch

July 26, 1979

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in response to the request for public response which the NRC has publicized in the media. You express a concern for emergency planning and preparedness. In view of the nature of the dangers of radiation at every step of the nuclear power process (from mining uranium through the operation of the power plant to the final waste disposal) the only sensible cure would seem to be prevention.

Our country with less than 6% of the world's population is currently using more than 30% of the world's energy resources. 13% of our present energy demand is being met by nuclear power. Even a small conservation effort (if honestly and confidently led) would be able to reduce our energy consumption by 13%, thereby eliminating the need for such an inefficient and dangerous program.

I believe that the American people would, if they were given the truth about nuclear power, much prefer conservation to radiation (even low-level). No after-the-fact emergency plan will be sufficient to undo the damage which is a threat as long as we continue to pretend that nuclear power is a viable alternative. Solar energy, renewable energy resources and conservation are the only realistic alternatives.

You of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission have in your power the possible future of mankind. In your place I could do no less than require the total halting of nuclear power. I earnestly hope that you see your position as a prophetic one for the current generation of decision-makers as well as for the generations to come who will certainly demand an accounting from us.

Sincerely,

Irene S. Schoutens

Acknowledged by card.

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copies to:
 Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie, Chairman
 Nuclear Regulatory Commission

President Jimmy Carter

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