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CIVIL DEFENSE DIVISION
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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER

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PETITION RULE PRM -50-23

(11) (44FR32486)



Mr. Gerald L. Hutton
Division of Rules and Records
Office of Administration
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Hutton:

After reading the Petition for Rulemaking, Docket No. PRM-50-23, submitted by the Critical Mass Energy Project and some 14 other similar organizations, my immediate reaction is that the intent of this petition is to eliminate all present and future nuclear reactor plants throughout the United States. Obviously, the objective is to impose such stringent and unreasonable requirements as to make compliance virtually impossible or economically unattainable. The safety and well-being of the public is not the issue - the elimination of nuclear reactor plants is.

A 50-mile radius from the Turkey Point Nuclear Reactor Plant in Dade County would include all of Dade County, as far north as Ft. Lauderdale and down to Long Key near Marathon in Monroe County. It would also include part of Collier County. The number of people involved in this total area is approximately two million.

The petition calls for an annual drill and the evacuation of a sector 7 degrees wide out to a distance of 30 miles. Such a sector in a north-northeasterly direction from Turkey Point would extend to N.W. 36th Street in the City of Miami and would take in most of the industrial and business complex, both the County and City of Miami governmental establishments, about half the major hospitals, the Port of Miami and the Miami Herald and Miami News building. The economic impact of evacuating this area just for the sake of a drill would be tremendous. It would also be preposterous to expect Florida Power and Light Company to foot the bill for such an exercise, even if we were successful in getting a reasonable degree of participation from those involved. I'm sure the petitioners recognize that the cost would be passed on to the consumers, the consequence being that no drills would be

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held. This would then serve the underlying purpose of the petition - make the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's regulations so stringent that no reactor plant, existing or planned, could possibly comply with them.

I think the petition is ridiculous. With the world oil situation being what it is, there is no way we can turn our backs on nuclear power which, in my opinion, in addition to its excellent safety record will prove to be the energy source of the future. I urgently request the Commission to deny this petition.

Sincerely,

A. C. Fischer

A. C. Fischer, Deputy Director
Dade County Civil Defense

ACF/bsw

cc: J.E. Buchanan, SOFA Coordinator