



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

SEP 21 1979

Ms. Laurie Nasta
4443 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Ms. Nasta:

I have been asked to respond to your letter of September 6, 1979 to Mr. Harold Denton. As you may be aware, it is the responsibility of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to assure the health and safety of the public and workers regarding the providing of electric power by nuclear means. No construction permit or operating license will be issued to a utility company for a nuclear power plant until all of our criteria for safety and public and worker health protection are met. As a result of the Three Mile Island accident, which actually had a very small health effect, there will be additional safety features added to both operating plants and plants under construction or planned.

The health effect of the Three Mile Island accident was minute, as shown in the attached interagency report (NUREG-0558). As described on Page 2 of that report, the projected number of excess health effects is approximately two, in a population that would be normally expected to have 225,000 fatal cancers over the rest of its lifetime.

Normal operation of the nuclear fuel cycle also creates for fewer health effects than an equivalent amount of power generated by coal. In NUREG-0332, attached, Table 1, page 17 shows that excess mortalities in the nuclear fuel cycle are 0.47 per 0.8 GWy(e) compared to 15-120 for coal for the same amount of energy.

Finally, I should mention that the current radiation exposure experience of nuclear power plant workers, under the occupational exposure limits of Federal Regulation 10 CFR Part 20 which is implemented by NRC, places their work in a low risk category compared to most industrial employment.

Sincerely,

William E. Kreger

William E. Kreger, Assistant Director
for Site Analysis
Division of Site Safety and
Environmental Analysis

Enclosures:
NUREGs-0558, 0332

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FACIL: AUTH. NAME AUTH. AFFILIATION
 NASTA, L. Affiliation Unknown
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 DENTON, H. R. Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: Expresses concern re health hazards of nuclear power.

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4443 SPRUCE ST
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SEPT. 6, 1979

MR. DENTON
DIRECTOR REACTOR REGULATION
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
1717 "H" STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

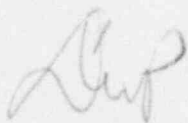
DEAR MR. DENTON:

I URGE YOU TO LISTEN TO THE APPEALS OF THE
ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT. NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS
ARE DANGEROUS TO THE COMMON MAN. ONLY BIG
BUSINESS WILL PROFIT; BUT NO HUMAN BEING WILL
BE PROTECTED FROM THE HEALTH HAZARDS.

THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO WORK
IN NUCLEAR PLANTS ARE TERMINALLY ILL CANCER
PATIENTS. THESE PEOPLE CANNOT BE HARMED FURTHER,
AND COULD USE THE MONEY FOR MEDICAL BILLS

YOURS FOR A SAFE WORLD

Laurie Haste
Member of Keep the
Alliance



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