MAINE STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

[illegible] STREET PORTLAND, MAINE [illegible]

March 22, 1979

Dr. Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Hendrie:

The Directors of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce are most concerned regarding the precipitous action of the NRC in the closing down of the Maine Yankee Atomic Electric Generating Station. While we are not unmindful of the safety considerations im[illegible]d, this action appears to represent flagrant o[illegible]rotection by the Federal government thro[illegible]gh the r[illegible]atory process.

When one conbines the extremely remote possibility of an earthquake at this site with the further consideration that an earthquake would result in pipe failure in the [illegible]ine Yankee Atomic plant, the action closing the plant would seem to be regulatory overkill.

Today Maine Yankee announced the plant does, in fact, meet NRC standards. Further considering the 40,000 barrels of oil per day being consumed to replace the station's generating ability and the $6 million a month this is costing Maine consumers, we urge you to authorize immediately the start-up of this plant. Each day's delay has a negative impact on our state's residents and economy that we believe is completely unnecessary.

Sincerely,

James L. Moody, Jr.
Chairman

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