

Mr. & Mrs. George Ryan  
M.R. Box 403  
Chesterton, Indiana 46304

December 30, 1979

Secretary of the Commission  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

50-367

Dear Sir:

RE Extension of completion date -  
Bailly I Nuclear Plant - Burns Harbor, In.

It is our understanding that the Northern Indiana Public Service Company has requested an extension of its permit to construct the Bailly Nuclear plant in this area. We believe the Nuclear Regulatory Commission should not grant this extension, for the following reasons:

- 1) It is our understanding that under proposed Federal guidelines for the construction of such plants, Bailly I has the lowest score of any plant in the country, built or under construction, at this time. You must surely be aware that several newspapers in the area - including the Chicago Tribune - have commented editorially against the construction of this plant, which now is in violation of your own recommendations.
- 2) The problem of the "short pilings" has not been solved and we feel this constitutes a basic fault in construction which would be an added danger to the plant and the community.
- 3) A number of balloon flights covering the area to the East and South (originating within one mile of the proposed plant) have proven that down-wind fallout from the plant, should an accident occur, would extend over parts of at least three states and cover thousands of people. This area is, of course, ALSO subject to "natural" uncontrolled radiation seepage which normally occurs in the operation of nuclear plants. SHOULD THE AIR CURRENTS CHANGE to the opposite direction, which is possible, untold thousands of additional people would ALSO be affected, some very seriously.
- 4) No satisfactory evacuation plans for the area have been suggested in case of a major accident - nor is it conceivable that the population of Gary, South Bend, the southern half of Chicago and other areas COULD be adequately evacuated or protected against immediate radiation fallout.
- 5) No way has been found to prevent contamination of soil and water in case of such a disaster, and of course life depends upon uncontaminated food and water, as well as air.
- 6) There is no plan - local or national - for the control and/or storage of nuclear waste. WE ARE AWARE (others may not be) of the disaster in Russia (the mud volcano) some years ago, caused by the density of nuclear waste massed in one spot, which created a self-generated nuclear explosion, making the earth for hundreds of miles around uninhabitable for millions of years. ~~XXXXX~~

In view of the above we feel very strongly that NIPSCO should not be granted an extension of its permit, and Bailly I should not be built.

Very sincerely yours,

*Ethel S Ryan*

*George L Ryan*

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Acknowledged by card 119

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