

SMALL NEWSPAPERS

1063 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045 (202) 393-3408 5020043

MARCH 28, 1980

ROGER RUNNINGEN  
Bureau Chief

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS  
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
ACT REQUEST

FOIA-80-171  
REC'D 3-31-80

RE: IN RESPONSE TO FOIA-80-A-2

DEAR SIR:

ON NOV. 30, 1979, I REQUESTED DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN RECORDS OF YOUR AGENCY UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT. THE REQUEST WAS DENIED, AS WAS AN APPEAL ON JAN. 20, 1980. THE REASONS GIVEN ME WERE THAT DISCLOSURE WOULD HAMPER AN ONGOING INVESTIGATION; HOWEVER, THOSE REASONS ARE NO LONGER VALID.

A FEDERAL GRAND JURY IN SPRINGFIELD, ILL., HAS BEEN TERMINATED FOLLOWING THE INDICTMENTS ON MARCH 26 OF COMMONWEALTH EDISON AND TWO OF ITS OFFICERS.

AIDING IN THE WORK OF THE GRAND JURY WAS AN INVESTIGATION DOCUMENT COMPILED BY THE NRC'S OFFICE OF INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT AND THE FBI. THE DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALLEGATIONS OF THE SECURITY BREACHES AT THE QUAD CITIES NUCLEAR POWER PLANT. THE INQUIRY WAS FINISHED ABOUT JAN. 1978.

THE APPEAL WAS DENIED BY WILLIAM J. DIRCKS, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS, ON FEB. 26 "BECAUSE ITS RELEASE WOULD INTERFERE WITH AN ONGOING INVESTIGATION."

THAT IS NO LONGER A VALID REASON TO WITHHOLD THE DOCUMENT. THE GRAND JURY HAS FINISHED ITS WORK, ITS TERM HAS EXPIRED AND DOCUMENTS ARE RETURNED TO THEIR OWNERS. THERE IS NO REASONABLE GROUNDS FOR THE DOCUMENT TO REMAIN EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE.

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU DISCLOSE THE DOCUMENT, WHICH MAY BE USED IN PREPARATION OF NEWS STORIES FOR PUBLICATION. THE REPORTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY TWO NUMBERS: #50-254/77/14 AND #50-265/77/14.

I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU PROMPTLY.

SINCERELY YOURS,

*Roger Runningen*  
ROGER RUNNINGEN

BUREAU CHIEF