



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

JUL 8 1980

Docket No. 50-289

Mr. John J. Bell
Executive Director
York County Industrial
Development Corporation
13 East Market Street
York, Pennsylvania 17401

Dear Mr. Bell:

I am writing in response to your letter to Chairman John Ahearne dated June 12, 1980, in which you enclosed a copy of the recent resolution adopted by the York County Industrial Development Corporation Board of Directors. The resolution and your comments advocate the return of Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1, into service and urge prompt action be taken by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) toward this goal.

The NRC has ordered that a public hearing be conducted to determine whether the facility should be operated and, if so, under what conditions. The public hearing is scheduled to begin this fall. During the hearing, the technical issues appropriate to assure public health and safety will be addressed. The NRC staff is currently involved in the on-going review of technical information concerning the restart of Unit 1 and has recently issued NUREG-0680, "TMI-1 Restart - Evaluation of Licensee's Compliance with the Short and Long Term Items of Section II of NRC Order dated August 9, 1979". Based upon the current status of the proceedings, the development of a record on which the Commission can make a decision regarding restart is not expected before the early part of 1981.

While the NRC is, of course, concerned about financial impacts on consumers and licensees, the NRC's primary responsibility is the assurance of public health and safety.

Your comments and interest in this matter are appreciated. Copies of your correspondence have been routed to various staff members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Harold R. Denton".

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

8007220031*

A