



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

JUL 16 1980

Mr. Charles L. Mauro, President
C. L. Mauro Associates, Inc.
8 West 40th Street
New York, New York 10018

Dear Mr. Mauro:

Thank you for your letter of June 25, 1980, expressing your interest in helping to resolve some of the human factors engineering issues surfaced by the accident at Three Mile Island.

I agree with you that, in the past, there has been a lack of integration between human factors research and its application to nuclear power plant design. Both NRC and the nuclear industry are now changing this. As you may know, NRC has organized, within the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, a new Division of Human Factors Safety under the leadership of Dr. Stephen Hanauer. This new division will ensure increased emphasis on the application of human factors engineering to the design, operation and maintenance of safe nuclear plants. Also, the NRC Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research is conducting studies both to estimate failure rates due to human errors, and to identify possible improvements; for example, in control room panels and displays, and in procedures for operation, maintenance, and inspection. The nuclear industry is working to strengthen these areas in part through the Electric Power Research Institute and the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations.

We welcome your interest in working on these issues, and will include your company on bidders' lists for future requests for proposals in these areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert Budnitz", written in a cursive style.

Robert J. Budnitz, Director
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

cc: Hon. Daniel P. Moynihan
Hon. Jacob K. Javits
Chairman John Ahearne
Harold R. Denton
Stephen H. Hanauer

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