

May 9, 1980

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attn: Dr. Harold K. Denton

Gentlemen:

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The release, over the strong objections of the people of the area, together with all people opposed to the threat from nuclear reactors, was to enable workmen to enter a compartment from which they could see portions of the inside of the containment.

The Krypton was to be released within one mile of the Middletown Airport and approximately five miles (see map) from the Harrisburg International Airport. Both airports are served by passenger jets daily.

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passengers would be advised prior to entering the Three Mile Island area, to notify them of the danger of concentrated Krypton which could be present at the glide slope for airplanes landing on runway 31 that day.

The fact that there were no notams is irresponsible and such negligence suggests a pattern of with-holding the danger aspects of radioactivity by government agencies, in particular the NRC.

It must be determined also if the Federal Aviation Authority, which has permitted reactors to be built close to VOR's is also involved in not altering Flight Service Stations to protect individuals using scheduled contamination of air space with lethal radioactive concentrations.

All pilots, and in particular, pilot organizations like AOPA, should protest this open disregard for safety of pilots and passengers. I asked the NRC to investigate this breach of their responsibility to protect the public and, in particular, to receive a prompt answer indicating proper action to correct this dangerous situation.

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Looking forward to hearing from you, I remain

Very truly yours,

Frank R. Romano
61 Forest Avenue
Ambler, Pa. 19002

FRR/cap



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

NRC PDR

JUL 7 1980

Docket No. 50-320

Mr. Frank R. Romano
61 Forest Avenue
Ambler, Pennsylvania 19002

Dear Mr. Romano:

This is in response to your letter of May 9, 1980, in which you expressed concern because no "notice to airmen" was issued in conjunction with the release of krypton-85 from Three Mile Island, Unit 2 on April 23, 1980.

You are correct in your assumption that the Unit 2 containment entry did not take place on April 24 as planned; however, a very small amount of krypton-85 (about 1/20th of a curie) was released on April 23. If all activities in conjunction with the planned entry into the TMI Unit-2 containment on April 23 and 24 had taken place, a release of approximately 25 curies of krypton-85 to the environment would have occurred. Assuming poor meteorological conditions, this would have resulted in a maximum total-body exposure of approximately 0.008 millirem at the site boundary. Personnel in aircraft on the glide path for brief periods of time close to TMI would have received an even lower dose of radiation.

Exposure from background radiation results in a total-body dose of approximately 0.3 millirem per day to the population. Therefore, the 0.008 millirem projected exposure from krypton releases results in a relatively insignificant increase in population exposure above that received from background radiation. Accordingly, a special warning to the aviation community concerning hazardous radiation exposures was not deemed necessary in this instance. As a point of interest, for every hour of flying at 35,000 foot altitude, a pilot receives about 1 millirem exposure.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
631 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

May 14, 1980

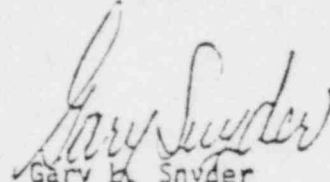
MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold K. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

FROM: Gary L. Snyder, Assistant to the Director
Region I, IE

SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE FROM FRANK R. ROMANO

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I have acknowledged receipt of his letter and told him that it was being forwarded to you.


Gary L. Snyder
Assistant to the Director

Enclosure:
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cc w/enclosure:
N. C. Moseley, Director, ROI
J. T. Collins, NRC TMI Operations Office
Dictated by GLS

May 9, 1980

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WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

Local
PDR

JUL 7 1980

Docket No. 50-320

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Harold R. Denton, Director
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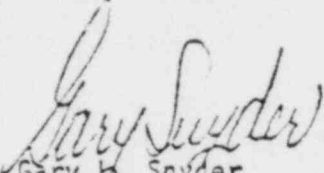
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FRR/cap

Local PDR w/incoming
 TERA w/incoming
 NRR r/f
 TMI:PO r/f w/incoming
 TMI Site r/f w/incoming
 BJSnyder
 JCollins
 HRDenton
 EGCCase
 PPAS
 BGrimes
 DEisenhut
 RHVollmer
 DRoss
 SHanauer
 RMattson

MDuncan
 WTravers
 HThompson w/incoming

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OFFICE	TMI:PO	DIR/TMI:PO	D:DIR/NRR	DIR/NRR
SURNAME	WTravers/hmt	BJSnyder	EGCase	HRDenton
DATE	6/2/80	6/2/80	6/ /80	6/ /80



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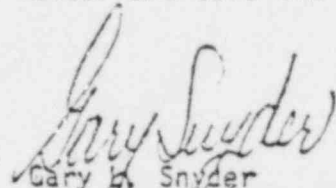
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