

DISTRIBUTION

TERA  
✓ Evans  
WParler  
PNorri  
RDeYoung

EKCornell  
GFrampton

C-21

October 10, 1979

In Reply Refer to:  
NTFTM 791010-12

Mr. Rick L. Butler  
1029 Ridgewood Road  
York, Pa. 17400

Dear Mr. Butler:

The NRC/TMI Special Inquiry Group is currently engaged in an investigation into the accident at Three Mile Island and all allegations concerning the cause of that accident. One of the allegations which we are looking into is that Unit 2 was rushed into commercial operation in order to obtain certain financial advantages.

In that regard, we are speaking with former employees at the TMI-2 site who may have observed such a "rush," or employees who left the company with some dissatisfaction. Your name has come to our attention through an internal Net-Ed document. In that document, which assessed the accident at TMI-2, one anonymous author stated:

"For those people who deserted the ship, so to speak, like Rick Butler, and any others, they should either be encouraged to come back to work, or some type of disciplinary discharge should be administered and their future employers informed of this. It is unfair to the vast majority of people who responsibly stayed and did everything within their power to safely shutdown the plant, and protect the public(,) to have these people merely quit and leave without any kind of official response by the company. Perhaps this is not really practical, any maybe very subjective, but I just don't feel it is fair to all the people in Net-Ed who really pitched in and continued to fully support the operation."

We would appreciate your insight into what this author meant by stating that you "deserted the ship." Specifically, we are interested in learning if you had any safety-related concerns which caused you to leave employment with JCP&L or whether, in the course of your employment, you noticed any rush to complete TMI-2 by the end of 1978.

If you have such observations, please call David Evans of my staff (collect) at (301)-492-8947. I have also provided a prepaid envelope, should you wish to communicate in writing. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to call Mr. Evans at the number listed.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,  
George Frampton  
Deputy Director

POOR ORIGINAL

Enclosure:	NRC/TMI	NRC/TMI	NRC/TMI	NRC/TMI	NRC/TMI	NRC/TMI
Envelope	DEvans	WParler	PNorri	RDeYoung	EKCornell	GFrampton
DATE	10/11/79	10/9/79	10/9/79	10/ /79	10/ /79	10/10/79

8001160 550