

LPDR



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

JAN 9 1980

Mr. W. A. Kuhrt
Vice President, Technology
United Technologies Corporation
United Technologies Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06101

Dear Mr. Kuhrt:

This is in reply to your letter of November 13, 1979, about licensing of nuclear power plants.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is committed to protect the public health and safety. The Three Mile Island accident resulted in a need for changes in the approach to safety. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has found that actions recommended by its own staff and by the President's Commission on the Accident at Three Mile Island in the areas of human factors, operational safety, emergency planning, nuclear power plant design and siting, health effects, and public information are necessary and feasible.

At this time we are preparing for review and approval by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission an Action Plan that will specify the precise actions to be taken. This Action Plan will include new or improved safety objectives, detailed criteria for their implementation, and various implementation deadlines. Our goal is to have approved NRC requirements available to all utilities shortly after February 15, 1980.

It is recognized that there will be a significant effect on the availability of power generating capacity if those plants now in the final stages of construction do not receive operating licenses by the dates previously anticipated, and every effort is being made to avoid unnecessary delays.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold R. Denton".

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

8002080 267

H



OSMOSE

980 ELLICOTT STREET · BUFFALO, N. Y. 14209
(716) 882-5905 Telex 91328 Osmosewood Buf

December 3, 1979

President Jimmy Carter
White House
Washington, D. C.

Handwritten initials

Subject: Expediting Licensing of Approved Nuclear Power Plants

Dear President Carter:

Our company is in the wood preserving business with no direct ties to nuclear power.

I therefore write in behalf of my associates and myself as a business person and an individual concerned with our future needs for electric power.

Specifically, we ask that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission "freeze" on licensing nuclear plants already approved be lifted without further delay.

From everything that I can understand, we absolutely need nuclear power generation in this country to maintain anything approaching our present standard of life and, therefore, we most strongly advocate prudent and reasonable expediting of those plans for nuclear generating stations now under way or coming up in the future.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of DuVal Cravens
DuVal Cravens
Vice President

DVC:scw

cc: Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20545

Attn: Commissioners - Joseph M. Hendrie, Chairman
John F. Ahearne
Peter A. Bradford
Victor Gilinsky
Richard T. Kennedy

Nuclear Reactor Regulation Office
Attn: Director - Harold R. Denton ✓

Handwritten initials

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR: 7911300501 DOC. DATE: 79/11/30 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #

FACIL:
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 FREEMAN, T. R. Affiliation Unknown
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 DENTON, H. R. Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

POOR ORIGINAL

SUBJECT: Protests freezing of const of nuclear power plants.

DISTRIBUTION CODE: XE01S COPIES RECEIVED: LTR 1 ENCL 0 SIZE: 1
 TITLE: Exec. Correspondence (No Specific Dkt. Trans. to Denton/

NOTES: -----

RECIPIENT ID CODE/NAME	COPIES LTR ENCL	RECIPIENT ID CODE/NAME	COPIES LTR ENCL
INTERNAL: GROFF, M. (ORIG)	1 X	TERA/ICY SUPEND	1 X

[Handwritten signature]

TOTAL NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED: LTR 2 ENCL 0
X



**UNITED
TECHNOLOGIES**

Wesley A. Kuhrt
Vice President
Technology

November 13, 1979

Mr. Harold R. Denton
Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Phillips Building
7920 Norfolk Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland

Dear Mr. Denton:

I fully endorse the attached reaction to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's announcement of a licensing freeze as stated by Carl Walske, President of the Atomic Industrial Forum.

Sincerely,

W.A. Kuhrt

W. A. Kuhrt

tlr
Attach.

7911280434

XEP
3/1

Reaction to the NRC's Announcement of A Licensing Freeze
by Carl Walske, President of the Atomic Industrial Forum

Against a backdrop of news from Iran and elsewhere that has ominous implications for our future energy supply, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has introduced yet another unsettling element. Its action in imposing a freeze on issuance of operating licenses and construction permits poses the threat of an open-ended delay in nuclear licensing. This is the prospect that the Kemeny Commission feared when it considered several possible nuclear moratorium proposals, and which in the end it rejected precisely for this reason.

The industry has already expressed its strong agreement with the thrust of the Kemeny Commission report. We are pledged to remedying the lapses revealed by the Three Mile Island Accident, and we hasten to add that, if there is one deficiency in the Kemeny report, it is a lack of recognition for the tremendous remedial effort that has been mounted in the seven months since the accident by the industry and NRC.

The NRC's freeze seems also to discount this seven month effort; we believe it should not take another seven months, or 12 or 24, to apply the lessons of TMI.

If the NRC persists in imposing this freeze, then it must recognize how illogical it is to hold up operating licenses for a handful of reactors that have had the full benefit of the TMI lessons learned, while at the same time certifying 70 other reactors--some twins of the ones awaiting licenses--as being safe to operate, based on the same TMI lessons. Each such reactor delayed, ultimately costs the consumers some \$2-million a week, just in interest charges, and deprives the nation of energy equivalent to what could power 300,000 automobiles.

Because the NRC today functions in a heated political environment, and is often internally split on nuclear licensing issues, we feel it is urgent that the Commission now set itself a public agenda and schedule for resolving those issues it feels must be addressed in the wake of the Kemeny report. The nation can ill-afford an indefinite hold on nuclear licensing or one that is subjected to politically inspired delays.

November 6, 1979