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"Metal Service Center of the South"  
December 6, 1979

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Nuclear Reactor Regulation Office  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street, N. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

I have recently been made aware of a decision made by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to stop issuing construction permits and operating licenses for nuclear powered plants, and I am very concerned over what I feel to be an irresponsible decision. The United States being one of the largest energy consuming nations in the world has placed itself in an extremely vulnerable position with its high dependence on foreign oil and has no alternative steps except nuclear power or coal.

Nuclear power can be related to our experiences in the space program in which we faced many more unknown factors and succeeded. Certainly the need for energy is much more crucial than that of space exploration. It appears that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is taking a weak approach to this program by restricting development of a safe operation of nuclear power which is our only answer. It is quite evident that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the South American oil producing countries will be the next in line to bring us to our knees with crippling oil restrictions.

I urge you to consider the alternatives in making us more independent for our energy needs and would appreciate your comments on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jos. A. Roccaforte, Jr.

JR/dg



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