

## Omaha Public Power District

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER December 13, 1979

Mr. Harold Denton, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulations U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

We are deeply concerned about the recent action of the NRC which imposes a freeze on operating licenses and construction permits for nuclear power facilities in the U.S. We recognize this freeze is the result of the recent Kemeny Report; and while the electric stility industry agrees in part with most of the report, in view of America's dependence upon imported crude oil and our current inflationary spiral, the nation cannot afford an indefinite hold on nuclear licensing.

The cost of such a freeze is astronomical--both to electric utility ratepayers and to the U.S. as a whole. It is estimated that this freeze could cost the ratepayers around \$2 million a week in increased electricity production costs and could cost the U.S. the price of consuming thousands of additional barrels of crude oil at a time when we are striving to cut back and conserve our consumption of imported oil.

We feel that it is of greatest importance that the NRC finalize a public agenda and schedule for resolution the issues raised by the Kemeny Report.

Sincerely

Lloyd C. Shalla