

August 6, 1979

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Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

POOR
ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. or Ms. [Name],

This letter is in response to your request for public input in the determination of whether the accident at T.M.1 was an E.N.C.

I read through your overview of the Price - Anderson Act and while reading this Act was written with the (not really) in mind - words like "it is up what I believe to be a very serious omission! It assumes that a nuclear accident will be a cut and dry "incident", "It happened - this much was released." What we experienced instead was Weeks of confusion of what did happen. From March 2 until at least a week later - we, the citizens of the surrounding area (our family lives 5 miles from T.M.1) went through hell on earth trying to figure out what did or was happening and whether or not we were safe - "everything's fine - everything's not fine" - "Evacuate - don't evacuate" - "There was no release - there was some release" - "There was a good ~~deal~~ deal released back when we were telling you there was none released" - "The hydrogen bubble could explode - it can't explode" - "We don't know how it got there - we knew all along where it came from." Should I go on?

Trying to decide what action to take and how far to run was extremely difficult, if not impossible. To make a rational decision based on that kind of information

took extraordinary intelligence and lots of guts. 157
The Inver-Action Act does not take into account
the Extraordinary conclusion -

This conclusion contributes greatly to our economic
damages and health effects. Ask any doctor what a
couple months of extreme stress will do to someone's
health!! The conclusion of those weeks is only True
when we find out the dangers were greater than
anticipated - in retrospect?

All this confusion - and conflicting statements from
Pat-Ed and the N.S.C. only makes me very suspicious
of the entire industry - and I'm sure I'm not alone
in that feeling - and that contributes to economic and
health damage.

Please decide in favor of determining T.M.I. and
Extraordinary Nuclear Occurrence !!

Hopefully,

Catherine A. Messer
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