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

APR 21 1980

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
POOR QUALITY PAGES

Mr. Dale A. Comp
R. D. #7, Box 142
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013

Dear Mr. Comp:

This is in reply to your letter of March 17, 1980, concerning the operation of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Station. TMI Unit 2, where the accident occurred, is not operable and won't be for a long time to come. Unit 1 is shut down in accordance with an Order of July 2, 1979, by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which said:

"In view of the variety of issues raised by the accident at the Three Mile Island Unit No. 2 facility, the Commission presently lacks the requisite reasonable assurance that the same licensee's Three Mile Island Unit No. 1 facility, a nuclear power reactor of similar design, can be operated without endangering the health and safety of the public. Accordingly, we direct that the Unit No. 1 facility, presently in a shutdown condition, shall remain shut down until further order of the Commission itself. The Commission has further determined that it is in the public interest that a hearing precede restart of the facility."

The Commission's Order and Notice of Hearing on August 9, 1979, stated:

"In addition to the items identified for the other B&W reactors, the unique circumstances at TMI require that additional safety concerns identified by the NRC staff be resolved prior to restart. These concerns result from (1) potential interaction between Unit 1 and the damaged Unit 2, (2) questions about the management capabilities and technical resources of Metropolitan Edison, including the impact of the Unit 2 accident on these, (3) the potential effect of operations necessary to decontaminate the Unit 2 facility on Unit 1 and (4) recognized deficiencies in emergency plans and station operating procedures."

There have been prehearing conferences, but the hearing itself has not yet started.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission must be assured that the public health and safety will be protected before Three Mile Island Unit 1 can be allowed to resume operation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Harold R. Denton".

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Wale A. Co p
R.D.#7 Box 142
Carlisle, Pa.
17013
March 17, 1980

Harold Denton
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D.C. 20540

Dear Sir:

I would like to express some of my views on nuclear energy being used to produce electricity in our country.

I have always favored the use of nuclear energy as a source for generating electricity. Since the accident at TMI, my views have not changed. However, I do not favor the operation of the plants in a haphazard manner. It would appear from all reports that TMI was operated much to carefree.

This accident could and should be of benefit to our nation and the nuclear industry. We have survived this accident with no fatalities. Valuable lessons learned here should be applied to all applicable areas of nuclear energy.

It is time to stop listening to the small group of self-educated anti-nuclear experts and get to the problem at hand. Let's correct the problem at TMI now and reopen it as soon as possible.

This multi-million dollar facility should not stand idle, or be converted to coal or oil. It should be used as intended.

Let's take our hands out of the sand and use this experience to move forward, not regress.

Sincerely yours,

Wale A. Co p

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