



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

MAR 29 1980

8005120756

~~NRC PDR~~
50-320

TIC

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
POOR QUALITY PAGES

Mrs. Robert S. Foster
23 Grinnel Drive
Cedar Cliff Manor
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011

Dear Mrs. Foster:

This is in reply to your letter of June 17, 1979, to Commissioner Ahearne opposing the reopening of the Three Mile Island units. I am sorry for the long delay in responding, but we have been very busy with the aftermath of the Three Mile Island accident.

Both Units 1 and 2 at Three Mile Island are shut down. Unit 2, where the accident occurred, is not operable and won't be for a long time to come. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission in its Order of July 2, 1979, directed that Unit 1 remain shut down until further order of the Commission itself after a public hearing.

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.

I assure you that every effort is being made to protect the public health and safety at all nuclear power plants currently operating or that may be operating in the future.

Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation