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January 9th, 1980

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)  
1717 "H" St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear NRC Representative:

The musicians of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra are considering the scheduling of a tour concert in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania during the month of May, 1980. Some of our musicians have objected to Harrisburg as a concert location due to its proximity to the Three Mile Island nuclear reactor plant. These musicians believe that dangerous radioactive contamination may exist in the geographical area surrounding Three Mile Island.

In order for the orchestra to make a decision based, insofar as possible, on fact, we are writing to the NRC to request your answers to the questions which follow. Since it is imperative that a determination be made on concert scheduling in the very near future, we would be most grateful for your response at your earliest convenience.

- 1) In the assessment of the NRC, is there radioactive contamination in the area surrounding Three Mile Island at this time?
- 2) If contamination is present, what geographical area is now affected and would this area include Harrisburg?
- 3) What is the likelihood that contamination may now be present in the water and/or food chain of the Harrisburg area?
- 4) Is there any possibility of present radioactive leakage from the Three Mile Island reactor?
- 5) What are the chances of a person sustaining (immediately or eventually) health damage from radioactive contamination as a result of a five to ten hour stay in Harrisburg?
- 6) Is there any specific advice the NRC would offer to an individual who was to stay in Harrisburg for five to ten hours?
- 7) Is there any classification of person that should avoid the Harrisburg area under any circumstances, i.e., pregnant women, people contemplating having children, etc.?

In addition to any answers you can provide to these questions, we would also appreciate any statistics, articles, or other such relevant data which you could send or refer us to.

Extremely helpful to us would be a brochure or any written description of the NRC, its organization, functions and aims. Also, will you kindly include



the name and telephone number of an individual (or individuals) at your office or elsewhere who we may contact, if necessary, for further information.

Once again, it is important for us to obtain information quickly and we would certainly be most appreciative of your expedited efforts on our behalf.

Our immense thanks!

Gratefully,

Douglas R. Cornelsen, Chairman  
The Detroit Symphony Orchestra Committee  
(Telephone 313-755-6217)