

EA 427

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CINCINNATI 45219

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LEE J. VESPER, M.D.

March 24, 1980

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Sir:

Recent testimony before the NRC has suggested that residents in the immediate area of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant would be severely disturbed by the release of radioactive krypton into the atmosphere at the Three Mile Island. On the other hand, the staff members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission believe that only by removal of this radioactive gas can decontamination of this damaged unit be continued. If the radioactive gas is not removed, a multimillion dollar facility would be unusable.

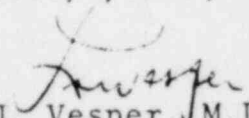
I recommend venting the radioactive material into an enclosed balloon and attach this to a helium balloon, pull it over the Atlantic Ocean and release it. A remote explosive device could be attached to the krypton containing balloon so that it could be destroyed when it reached an appropriate height over the eastern Atlantic.

If your technicians feel that the release of this small amount of krypton in the region of Three Mile Island would be safe (but is prevented by the understandable emotional sentiments of the local residents), surely the release of this same radioactive material at great height over an unpopulated area would even be safer.

I would like very much some acknowledgement that this letter has been read by at least some one on your staff and if this idea is defective, I would appreciate the err in my reasoning pointed out.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,


Lee J. Vesper, M.D.

LJV/mb