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Washington, D.C. 20515

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Feb 21 1980

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED TO: John F. Ahearne, Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: Reported fire hazards at the Haddam Neck nuclear power plant. As you can see from the enclosed letters, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Cholmar are concerned that the Haddam Neck plant does not have adequate protection against fires, and that this deficiency has been confirmed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Please let me know what the NRC is doing to correct this problem and/or respond to these allegations.

PLEASE DIRECT RESPONSE TO ATTENTION OF:

Cully Irving

Please give this inquiry every consideration possible. Thank you very much for this courtesy. I shall look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,


Stewart B. McKinney, M.C.

SBM:md

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Westcott Neighborhood Association
P. O. BOX 594
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06904

Mr. [unclear]
Mr. [unclear]
Mr. [unclear]
Mr. [unclear]
ASSOCIATE
SIC
N. Y. TIMES

June 29, 1979

MR

Senator Lowell Weicker
Room 313 Russel
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

-and-

Congressman Stewart E. McKinney
Room 100 Cannon
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Weicker and Congressman McKinney:

RE: Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Statement That
Public Safety Requires Modification of Haddam Neck
Reactor (Connecticut Yankee) to Enable Alternate
Shutdown Capability.

The enclosed correspondence copies speak for themselves.
However, please note that Governor Grasso took almost two months
to answer our April 10, 1979 letter.

Also, please note that although the June 21, 1979 letter
from Ms. Brennehan, the Assistant Director of Energy Research
and Policy of the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management,
states that "the critical cables have been fireproofed," it also
indicates that she is either unaware of, or in disagreement with,
recent NRC staff conclusions, as follows: "an alternate shut-
down mechanism is required at Haddam Neck 'because of a few
specific plant locations where the staff does not have reasonable
assurance that a postulated fire will not damage both redundant
divisions of shutdown systems.'"

As part of your responsibility to us, your constituents, we
feel you should make every effort to insure that the NRC is doing
everything within its power to assure the public safety and health,
including prompt enforcement of all regulations.

We believe it is the responsibility of the State of Connecticut
to find out how much it would cost to make the Haddam Neck reactor
safe by modifications to provide it with the NRC required alternate
shutdown capability, whether such modifications can be made with the
reactor in operation, how long it will take to implement such
modifications, and how soon such work will begin. Also, we believe
we are entitled to such information.

For the record, at this point our position is neither pro-
nuclear nor anti-nuclear, but it is pro-safety.

We request your early concerned attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Bernard Cohen
Bernard Cohen
President - WNA

*Sorry I had to send
you a copy - this at
last time.
Bernie Cohen*

fcc
Encl.

June 21, 1979

Union of
**CONCERNED
SCIENTISTS**

June 21, 1979

The Honorable Ernest N. Abate
Speaker of the House of Representatives
State Capitol
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Mr. Abate:

For the last year and a half, the Union of Concerned Scientists has been seeking an immediate shutdown of operating nuclear power plants which do not have adequate protection against fires. The legal proceeding was begun on November 4, 1977, when we filed a Petition for Emergency and Remedial Action before the Commissioners of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Although the Commission has not rendered its final decision, the testimony of the NRC staff has established that the Haddam Neck nuclear power plant is one of those that does not have adequate fire protection features.

The reason that I am writing to you about this matter is that the May 4, 1979, letter to you from Lelan Sillin, Chairman of Northeast Utilities, contains information that is contradicted by evidence on the record before the NRC.

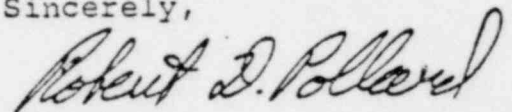
Enclosed are the documents we released on January 26, 1979. These documents outline the bases for our conclusion last January that the Haddam Neck plant should be shut down, at least until the fire protection provisions determined by the NRC staff to be needed for protection of the public have been installed.

Also enclosed is an excerpt from the most recent NRC staff testimony before the Commission dated February 12, 1979. Mr. Sillin, in his letter to you, alleges that the Haddam Neck plant "has been upgraded to the point that a single fire event will not affect the ability to safely shut down." In its testimony, the NRC staff concludes that an alternate shutdown mechanism is required at Haddam Neck (and at Millstone Unit 1) "because of a few specific plant locations where the staff does not have reasonable assurance that a postulated fire will not damage both

redundant divisions of shutdown systems." It is significant that the NRC staff reaches this conclusion after consideration of whatever upgrading has already been accomplished at the Haddam Neck plant. It is foolhardy to allow a nuclear power plant to remain in operation with known safety deficiencies. The very serious fire in the Browns Ferry plant occurred over four years ago. The NRC staff has known that fire protection in the Haddam Neck plant is inadequate since at least 1977. There is no rational basis for allowing this plant to remain in operation until 1980 as Mr. Sillin and the NRC staff propose. We continue to believe that the evidence supports the conclusion that the Haddam Neck plant should be shut down immediately.

I would be pleased to provide further information on this subject if you so desire.

Sincerely,



Robert D. Pollard
Nuclear Safety Engineer