



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

LOCAL PDR

Docket No. 50-289

JUL 10 1980

Mr. O. Fred Laurino  
President, New Jersey  
Utilities Association  
971 Stuyvesant Avenue  
Union, New Jersey 07083

Dear Mr. Laurino:

I am writing in response to your letter to Chairman John Ahearne dated June 19, 1980, in which you enclosed a copy of the recent resolution adopted by the New Jersey Utilities Association. The resolution and your comments advocate the return of Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1, into service and urge prompt action be taken by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) toward this goal.

The NRC has ordered that a public hearing be conducted to determine whether the facility should be operated and, if so, under what conditions. The public hearing is scheduled to begin this fall. During the hearing, the technical issues appropriate to assure public health and safety will be addressed. The NRC staff is currently involved in the on-going review of technical information concerning the restart of Unit 1 and has recently issued NUREG-0680, "TMI-1 Restart - Evaluation of Licensee's Compliance with the Short and Long Term Items of Section II of NRC Order dated August 9, 1979". Based upon the current status of the proceedings, the development of a record on which the Commission can make a decision regarding restart is not expected before the early part of 1981.

While the NRC is, of course, concerned about financial impacts on consumers and licensees, the NRC's primary responsibility is the assurance of public health and safety.

Your comments and interest in this matter are appreciated. Copies of your correspondence have been routed to various staff members.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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# NEW JERSEY UTILITIES ASSOCIATION

971 STUYVESANT AVENUE • UNION, NEW JERSEY 07083 • (201) 687-6868

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*Working to improve our State's vital services*

June 19, 1980

Mr. John F. Ahearne  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Matomic Building  
1717 H Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Ahearne:

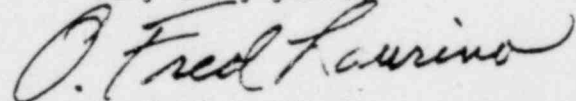
New Jersey utilities have long regarded Jersey Central Power & Light Company as an organization setting standards of excellence for others to follow. At the heart of the tradition fashioned by this outstanding organization is an objective it has maintained throughout its history-- reliable service to the public at the lowest possible cost.

In recognition of the vital contribution this fine company has made to our state, as well as to our industry, New Jersey utility companies join in urging the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to expedite the return of Unit I of the Three Mile Island Generating Station.

I have attached a copy of a resolution passed by the New Jersey Utilities Association at its 65th Annual Meeting on June 12, 1980, formalizing this request on behalf of our industry.

We would sincerely appreciate your serious consideration in this important matter.

Very truly yours,



O. Fred Laurino  
President

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Enc.

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## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, traditionally, has served its customers well with reliable service at reasonable cost, and

WHEREAS, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, through its pioneering efforts in the field of nuclear energy and through the construction and operation of nuclear generating stations, has saved its customers millions of dollars over the years, and

WHEREAS, Those savings have resulted in the rates charged by Jersey Central Power & Light Company being among the lowest in the area over a period of many years, and

WHEREAS, The March 28, 1979 accident at Unit 2 of the Three Mile Island Generating Station has had a severe financial impact upon Jersey Central Power & Light Company, and

WHEREAS, Despite the financial problems created for Jersey Central Power & Light Company by the March 28, 1979 accident at Unit 2 of the Three Mile Island Generating Station, the rates charged by Jersey Central Power & Light Company are comparable with the rates charged by neighboring electric utility companies, and

WHEREAS, As a result of the financial situation in which Jersey Central Power & Light Company finds itself, various alternatives, including bankruptcy, a takeover by another electric utility or a takeover by a State power authority have been suggested as solutions to Jersey Central Power & Light Company's financial problems, and

WHEREAS, Unit 1 of the Three Mile Island Generating Station which was not damaged in the aforesaid accident is ready to be placed back into service, and

WHEREAS, Recent public opinion surveys, including the Louis Harris poll released May 20, 1980, have confirmed that the majority of the public supports the use of nuclear energy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Jersey Utilities Association urges the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, the State of New Jersey, and other regulatory agencies at the State and Federal level to take whatever action is necessary, consistent with the best interests of the customers served by Jersey Central Power & Light Company, to enable said Jersey Central Power & Light Company to continue as an operating electric utility company, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the New Jersey Utilities Association urges the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission to expedite, to the fullest extent possible, the return of Unit 1 of the Three Mile Island Generating Station, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the New Jersey Utilities Association urges the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to take prompt action in granting the motion of Jersey Central Power & Light Company for interim relief in docket EL 80-22, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the New Jersey Utilities Association urges the United States Government or appropriate agency thereof to make research funds available to Jersey Central Power & Light Company commensurate with the value of knowledge that will be gained from the company's experiences in the course of restoring the Three Mile Island installation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the New Jersey Utilities Association commends the management of Jersey Central Power & Light Company, in the face of very adverse circumstances, for its continuing efforts to serve its customers with reliable service at costs consistent with those charged by other electric companies, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution is hereby ordered spread upon the records of the New Jersey Utilities Association and that it be certified, sealed, and attested in token of the sentiments expressed herein.