

JULY 1980

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Docket File  
 NRC PDR  
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 Docket No. 50-289  
 Mr. Don Hossler  
 501 Vine  
 Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

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Dear Mr. Hossler:

I am writing to acknowledge that your card to President Carter was forwarded to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for response. In your correspondence, you advocated intervenor funding for the activities relating to the restart hearings for Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1.

A request for intervenor funding in this case was recently raised by the Consumer Advocate of Pennsylvania. The Commission issued a memorandum and Order on May 16, 1980 in which the request for financial assistance from the Commission for the purpose of retaining experts who will submit studies and/or testify before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board was denied. The Commission denied the Consumer Advocates request in light of the advice received from the Comptroller General and the legislative history associated with the fiscal year 1980 appropriations legislation.

The Consumer Advocate of Pennsylvania filed a "Petition for Reconsideration" dated May 30, 1980, in which it requested the Commission to reconsider its decision to deny funding to intervenors in the TMI-1 restart proceeding. On June 16, 1980, the NRC staff filed a response to the petition, in which the staff opposed the request upon the ground that the Commission properly exercised its discretion on the issue of whether to fund intervenors and set forth an adequate basis for its conclusion not to fund them. The Commission has not issued a final ruling regarding the May 30, 1980 petition.

The documents referenced above, as well as a copy of an October 16, 1979 decision by the Licensing Board on this subject, should be available for your review at the local public document rooms, located in Harrisburg at the State Library of Pennsylvania, or in York at the York College of Pennsylvania.

I hope this information has been of assistance.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
 Robert W. Reid

Robert W. Reid, Chief  
 Operating Reactors Branch #4  
 Division of Licensing

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