

June 15, 1980

Dear People,

Unfortunately, the time has come for me as both a concerned citizen and taxpayer to voice my concern to you over the Three Mile Incident.

Since the plants untimely demise, I have followed the handling of the ensuing events, avidly. I can't help but feel that what I see emerging is both void in dealing with the people and emotions that have arisen. Have we come this far, this fast, that people and life are no longer the more important issue? What I feel is needed at this point is a new perspective of the big picture. 75,000 curies of radioactive gas, released into our atmosphere, may in itself, possibly, pose no threat.

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(thought I would tend to question the wisdom of this also) However, these 75,000 curies, combined with all of the other carcinogens we already, on a daily basis, pump into our environments, has logically, got to be taking its toll.

It is very easy to dictate policy as you are doing in this case, concerning public safety, but it does entail a certain sense of responsibility, which I feel lacking. People, in general, are not being calmed by your decisions, but rather frightened or appalled.

If you are wrong, you're safe! It'll be another 40 years before we really know and then what? I feel it's time we begin putting life before economics. Without life there is no money.

From your vantage point, you've already established that there

are certain safe levels of radiation that people can deal with. In my mind, that's absurd. Some people can go through life smoking 2 packs of cigarettes a day and never be ill from it, while others with half that consumption develop lung cancer as a result. Everybody has different levels of tolerance to toxic substances, and we really don't know, in their different combinations, just what they might do.

The time has come for us to reevaluate our stand on the spirituality of life on this planet and our purpose in preserving that sacred trust. I employ you as a concerned being to reconsider your decision. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,  
Charles J. Woody