4-25-75

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

# BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

> MEMORANDUM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN SUPPORT OF CLAIMS OF PRIVILEGE

#### Introduction

Pursuant to the agreement of counsel for the Department of Justice and for the Applicants, briefs in support of each party's claims of privilege are to be submitted on April 25, 1,71. Briefs challenging the other party's claims of privilege will be submitted on the date set for filing reply briefs, May 2, 1975. It is the belief of counsel for both parties that this procedure will be most helpful to the Master in his determination of the validity of the outstanding claims of privilege.

Submitted herewith is the memorandum of the United States in support of its assertions of attorney-client and work-product privilege.

# Claims of Privilege

The government asserts a claim of privilege with respect to the following documents:

 July 1, 1971 memorandum from Joseph J. Saunders and received by Richard W. McLaren regarding antitrust advice on Dav's-Besse application. Privileges asserted: attorneyclient, attorney's work product.

2. July 17, 1973 memorandum by Steven M. Charno received by Joseph J. Saunders, files, and correspondence, discussing and evaluating negotiations with the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company. Privilege is claimed only as to those portions of the document containing communications between Mr. Charno and members of the then Atomic Energy Commission staff. Privilege claimed: attorney's work product.

3. August 2, 1973 memorandum by Steven M. Charno received by Joseph J. Saunders, files and correspondence, relating to an evaluation of the activities of the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company. Privilege claimed: attorney-client, attorney's work product.

4. August 17, 1973 memorandum from Steven M. Charno (actaching a memorandum of even date) received by Joseph J. Saunders, files and correspondence. These documents outline and evaluate the results of the inquiry and make recommendations concerning litigation. Privilege claimed: attorney-client, attorney's work product.

A. Attorney-Client Privilege

The classic statement of the attorney-client privilege was made by Judge Wyzanski in <u>United States</u> v. <u>United Shoe MacLinery</u> Corp., 89 F. Supp. 357, 358-59 (D. Mass. 1950):

The privilege applies only if (1) the asserted holder of the privilege is or sought to become a client; (2) the person to whom the communication was made (a) is a member of the bar of a court, or his subordinate and (b) in connection with this communication is acting as a lawyer; (3) the communication relates to a fact of which the attorney was informed (a) by his client, (b) without the presence of strangers, (c) for the purpose of securing primarily either (i) an opinion on law or (ii) legal services or (iii) assistance in some legal proceeding, and not (d) for purposes of committing a crime or tort; and (4) the privilege has been (a) claimed and (b) not waived by the client.

The privilege has been held to apply to internal communications made by government attorneys and to communications between attorneys of one government agency and attorneys of another agency. <u>United States</u> v. <u>Anderson</u>, 34 F.R.D. 518 (D. Colo. 1964); <u>Thill Securities Corp. v. New York Stock</u> Exchange, 57 F.R.D. 133 (E.D. Wis. 1972).

Document numbers one and three, and the portion of document number two for which the United States claims privilege contain confidential communications between attorneys for the Department of Justice and between attorneys for the Department of Justice and the then c Energy Commission. The confidentiality of these documents has been preserved. They have been maintained in restricted files and have been made available only to counsel directly concerned with the litigation in this proceeding. As such they are within the privilege and should be afforded its protection.

## B. Attorney's Work Product

The work product of an attorney in a hearing before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is protected under §2.740(b)(2) of the Atomic Energy Commission Rules of Practice, 10 C.F.R. 2.1 et seq. This section reads as follows:

Trial preparation materials. A party may obtain discovery of documents and tangible things otherwise discoverable under subparagraph (1) of this paragraph and prepared in anticipation of or for the hearing by or for another party's representative (including his attorney, consultant, surety, indemnitor, insurer, or agent) only upon a showing that the party seeking discovery has substantial need of the materials in the preparation of his case and that he is unable without undue hardship to obtain the substantial equivalent of the materials by other means. In ordering discovery of such materials when the required showing has been made, the presiding officer shall protect against disclosure of the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, or legal theories of an attorney or other representative of a party concerning the proceeding.

It has been held that the privilege protects the work product of government attorneys as well as private counsel. <u>United</u> <u>States v. Anderson</u>, 34 F.R.D. 518 (D. Colo. 1964); <u>Thill</u> <u>Securities Corp.</u> v. <u>New York Stock Exchange</u>, 57 F.R.D. 133 (E.D. Wis. 1972). Document numbers one, three, four and the portion of document number two for which the United States claims privilege are clearly within the protection of the privilege. The documents contain the mental impressions of the attorney-authors with respect to meetings and negotiations with various parties to the proceedings, as well as

the attorneys' comments and policy suggestions as to the course of the litigation.

Although document number one was prepared prior to the rendering of adverse antitrust advice, it is still within the privilege. This document was prepared in anticipation of an antitrust hearing in that it contained the author's opinions as to whether such hearing should be held. It would clearly violate the purpose of the privilege, that of allowing an attorney to prepare his case without the fear that his work product will later be used by opposing counsel, <u>Hickman</u> v. <u>Taylor</u>, 329 U.S. 495 (1947), to exclude from its protection documents prepared with an eye towards the litigation and which discuss the advantages and disadvantages of litigating.

In conclusion, we urge that the Master affirm the Department's claims of privilege as described herein.

Respectfully submitte

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April 25, 1975

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

# BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of	
The Toledo Edison Company The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station)	) ) Docket No. 50-346A )
The Cleveland Electric Illuminating ) Company, et al. (Perry Plant, Units 1 and 2)	Docket Nos. 50-440A and 50-441A

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of MEMORANDUM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN SUPPORT OF CLAIMS OF PRIVILEGE have been served upon all of the parties listed on the attachment hereto by deposit in the United States mail, first class or airmail, with the exception of Honorable Marshall E. Miller and counsel for the Applicants, whose copies were delivered by hand, this 25th day of April 1975.

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Steven M. Charno Attorney, Department of Justice Antitrust Division

#### ATTACHMENT

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