

Dear Sir:

You had better approve the emergency core cooling system as redesigned by Consumers Power Company for the Midland plant. The whole future of this area depends on having that plant given a construction license by January 1, 1972.

As you can see from the enclosed clippings, we have a lot of influence with the officials in Washington, D.C.

*Hard-working Midland
citizens*

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Wednesday, November 3, 1971

N-hearings moved up

By Esther Van Wagoner Tufty
Daily News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Atomic Energy Commission has advanced public hearings on a construction license for Midland's nuclear power plant to mid-December.

The speedup was announced here Tuesday by U.S. Sen. Robert P. Griffin (R - Michigan) and Rep. Elford A. Cederberg (R - Bay City).

The hearings which have been held in Midland had been recessed in July.

"The AEC has informed us that it will be ready for hearings on the proposed emergency core cooling system by then rather than February as previously expected," Griffin and Cederberg said in a joint statement.

"We are gratified by what seems to be a new sense of urgency at the AEC and throughout Washington to end the unconscionable delays that have

blocked vitally needed power, not only in Michigan but also across the country."

Both attributed the speedup in the hearings to a three-day visit to Washington last week by 16 Midland civic leaders during which they met with officials responsible for development of nuclear power.

Griffin and Cederberg insisted the Midland residents "have a real grievance with their government. There is no excuse for the endless red tape that has snarled licensing procedures to the point where a normal six-month process now takes 18 months and will take longer.

"As far as we know, the Midland citizens' group is the first in history to petition the federal government advocating approval of a power project opposed by environmentalists," Griffin and Cederberg said, adding that several government officials remarked "it was refreshing to hear from a group that is for something for a change."

Thursday, October 28, 1971, Midland, Michigan

Midland N - plant given priority status

Review of plant designs for Midland's proposed nuclear power generating plant has been given a top priority status by the Atomic Energy Commission.

In an exclusive report today, the Daily News learned that in a meeting Wednesday with top officials of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Council on Environmental Quality, Midland's proposed plant, which Consumers Power Company seeks to construct, has been placed in a top priority classification.

Construction design plans may be reviewed by AEC staff members in a November meeting. Indications were given by members of the Midland Nuclear Power Committee that the actual hearing on the proposed plant may resume in Midland in January; if all AEC reviews are completed then although it

is up to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to set a hearing date after AEC staff review has been completed.

Dr. Wayne North, MNPC chairman, other members of the committee and members of the Midland County Board of Commissioners are concluding meetings today in Washington with top AEC and EPA officials and other federal officials.

"There is no doubt our visits with officials of the Atomic Energy Commission, presidential advisors, the Joint Commission on Atomic Energy, and Michigan's elected officials have enhanced our prospects for an early decision on the application," said Dr. North.

Joining Dr. North in expressing optimism for prompt action by the AEC were R. Jerry Bennett, chairman of the Midland County Board of Commission-

ers, and Lynn O. Francis, chairman of a special committee established by the board to press for prompt approval of the application.

Bennett and Francis, who headed a delegation from the board of commissioners which accompanied the citizens committee to Washington said, "Our

Daily News Exclusive

entire delegation has been warmly received by all officials that have met with us, and in each instance we have been promised support of our efforts to speed up processing of the application.

Leaders of the Midland delegation said this would appear to insure action on the applica-

tion by early 1972, perhaps even sooner, according to officials.

The delegation also met Wednesday with Dr. Richard Balzhiser, assistant director for National Resources, and Fred Winehold, both members of the staff of Dr. Edgar David, Jr., science advisor to President Nixon. They were told the Administration is "particularly interested" in the proposed Midland plant because of its dual purpose aspects.

The plant is the only one of 66 plants under consideration that would produce both steam and electrical power.

At a reception late Wednesday, the delegation met with U.S. Senators Philip A. Hart (D-Mich.) and Robert P. Griffin (R-Mich.) Congressman Elford A. Cederberg, and other members of the Michigan Congressional delegation, including Gerald A. Ford, Republican minority leader of the House.

A number of congressmen from other states, both Democrats and Republicans also dropped into the reception at the invitation of Cederberg.

Cederberg, who arranged the Washington meetings, was praised by Dr. North, Bennett, and Francis, for his "diligent efforts on behalf of the delegation."

The delegation, according to Dr. North, concluded its Washington visit today with a meeting with the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy Commission at the capitol building.

The delegation is scheduled to return to Midland this evening.

N-plant boosters get 'sympathetic' response in DC

10/31/71

Ned S. Arbury, a member of the executive group of the Midland Nuclear Power Committee in Washington this week, said the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy was "entirely sympathetic to our problems and appeared anxious to help in any way possible."

The Midland nuclear power group and special committees of the County Board of Commissioners were in the nation's capital to seek government support and action on an early decision with respect to nuclear power in the Midland area by the Atomic Energy Commission.

Arbury substituted for Dr. Wayne North, chairman of the Midland Nuclear Power Committee, in presenting the committee's appeal to the joint committee. Dr. North had to leave Washington late Wednesday night for a church meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

R. Jerry Bennett, chairman of the Midland County Board of Commissioners and Lynn O. Francis, chairman of the County Board's Special Committee on Nuclear Power affirmed Arbury's reaction to this meeting with the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. They said:

"We were told that it is a rare occasion when a group of private citizens from one relatively small community can get a hearing before such a prestigious committee, and it was amazing to see how well acquainted they were with our mission."

Members of the Joint Committee who met with the Midland delegation were the chairman, Sen. John O. Pastore (D-R.I.), Sen. George D. Aiken (R-Vt.), Sen. Howard H. Baker, Jr. (R-Tenn.), Rep. Chet Hollifield (D-Calif.), and Rep. Craig Hosmer (R-Calif.). Michigan Sen. Robert P. Griffin, who

is not a member of the committee but is assistant minority leader of the Senate, also sat at the meeting.

Francis said every group with which the delegation met seemed to be well briefed on the delegation's mission. He attributed this to the fact the board of commissioners has mailed copies of each of a series of four advertisements it has sponsored in the Midland Daily News to every member of the Senate and the House, as well as officials of the AEC and other interested organizations.

"Each week we sent reprints of the ad and a brief memo to almost 1,000 public officials, with special emphasis on those who played a role in making the final determination on the nuclear power plant application. Obviously this has been an effective means of telling our story," he said.

Dr. North said "one of the most impressive things about the mission to Washington was the fact that every member of the Midland Nuclear Power Committee and the board of commissioners committee participated at one time or the other in the discussions. This was citizens' involvement at its very best and the people in Washington were impressed," he said.

Dr. North, Bennett and Francis also expressed special appreciation to Simon Chapel, assistant to the president of the Michigan AFL-CIO, for the magnificent job he did in representing the Michigan labor movement at the meetings.

"His articulate voice and reasoning manner were very effective," they explained.

The delegation spokesman expressed belief the principal purpose of the trip was accomplished,

although they cautioned there must be follow-up and no let up in efforts of either group until the AEC has acted affirmatively on the application.

They identified the accomplishments as follows:

1 — Assurance from the AEC hearings will be resumed on the application as early as December.

2 — A positive statement from authorities the application has been given top priority, along with 18 other applications which will be reviewed simultaneously.

3 — A promise from officials of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Council on Environmental Quality they will take no longer than 30 days to review environmental studies sent to them by the AEC, which could occur as early as December, possibly sooner.

4 — A positive response to the need for an early decision from Dr. Richard Balchizer and Fred Winehold, members of President Nixon's science advisory staff.

5 — An overwhelmingly favorable reaction from members of the Michigan congressional delegation who turned out in large numbers for a reception set up by Rep. Elford Cederberg.

6 — An unusually good reception from members of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy.

"In fact, results of our trip were so satisfying that we have purposely tempered our enthusiasm, but we do owe a great debt of thanks to Rep. Cederberg, Sen. Griffin and other members of the Michigan delegation who helped set up our meetings with the high level of officials," Dr. North, Bennett and Francis concluded.

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Julius H. Rubin
For the Chairman