



THE CITY OF YORK, PENNSYLVANIA

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ELIZABETH N. MARSHALL
Mayor

May 21, 1980

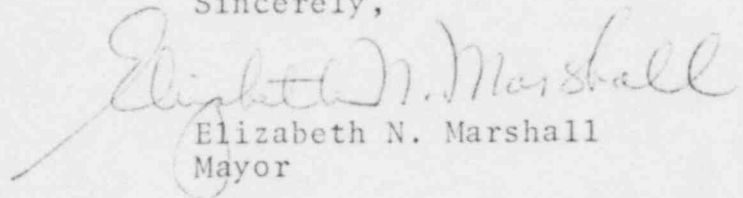
Mr. Tom Elsasser
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Three Mile Island Nuclear Station
P. O. Box 480
Middletown, PA 17057

Dear Mr. Elsasser:

I am attaching a copy of a communication received from Arthur Q. Boll, Sr., Mt. Wolf which is self-explanatory.

I would appreciate a brief note from you as to the truth of this article.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth N. Marshall
Mayor

ENM:ec
Attach.

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MONDAY, MARCH 24, 1980

Get rid of the krypton safely

The staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission recommends that the krypton gas trapped in the damaged reactor at Three Mile Island nuclear generating plant be released into the atmosphere as soon as possible. At hearings the commission held last week, the public gave its answer loud and clear. It was an angry, impassioned "No."

The commission says the radioactive gas must be vented in small doses over a period of time to prevent the far more terrible risk of uncontrolled massive leaks of the krypton later on. The leaks, the commission says, would involve the leaks of highly radioactive water also trapped in the reactor.

Despite the commission's assurances that the levels of krypton to be vented are within federal safety limits, there are scientists who assert that any and all exposure to radiation poses potential harm to present and future generations. This is the fear that grips residents of this region. Nothing the commission can say will allay that fear.

The krypton gas can be removed safely. There is technology to do so and it is available. The Philadelphia Inquirer reports editorially:

"Philadelphia Electric Co. has purchased cryogenic equipment — which liquifies gases through use of extremely low temperatures, facilitating their containment and safe removal — for its Limerick reactors under construction in Montgomery County. After the accident (last March 28 at Three Mile Island), the company offered to make that equipment available to Metropolitan Edison officials, according to PE spokesmen."

Almost a year later, the offer hasn't been accepted. Why?

Adapting the cryogenic equipment to the enormous clean-up operation at Three Mile Island would take time and money, but technically it is possible, experts say. Let it be done.

If Met-Ed can't pay to do so, then let the federal government bear the cost. That's not in the true capitalistic spirit, but certainly it is far more preferable than intentionally releasing harmful radioactive gas at who knows what price in human suffering.

Put the technology to work so the people of the Three Mile Island region don't have to go through another spring of discontent and fear.

Please check this it may help.

Thank you.

ARTHUR Q. BOLL, SR.
44 South 5th. Street
MT. WOLF, PA. 17347