

JUL 29 1980

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Docket 50-289  
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BSnyder  
JCollins  
DBrinkman  
Woliu

Mrs. M. Mills Jenkins  
RD #2, Box 181  
Lebanon, New Jersey 08833

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS  
POOR QUALITY PAGES

Dear Mrs. Jenkins:

I am writing in response to your postcard regarding disposal of liquid waste from Three Mile Island. I regret that this answer to your questions has been delayed. The accident and its consequences have created a substantial increase in the agency's workload, which has prevented me from responding to you as promptly as I would have liked.

In the comment you quoted, Governor Thornburgh was referring to 600,000 gallons of water in the Unit 2 reactor building. Release of this water is not permitted. No decisions will be made on either the processing or disposal of this water until completion of technical review and public comments on the accident cleanup.

In its Statement of Policy and Notice of Intent to Prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement of November 21, 1979, the Commission stated that the staff would prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement on the decontamination and disposal of radioactive wastes resulting from the accident at Three Mile Island Unit 2. The statement emphasizes the Commission's intention to coordinate its actions on this matter with the President's Council on Environmental Quality and to provide the opportunity for public comments. The programmatic environmental impact statement will focus on the environmental issues and alternative methods associated with the performance of these cleanup activities.

We appreciate your concerns and assure you that every effort is being made to ensure the continued protection of the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director  
Three Mile Island Program Office  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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DATE	7/10/80	7/10/80	7/10				