



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JULY 15 1980

Docket No. 50-289

Mr. Bill Wilbert, Manager
Delta Division
Vernon Company
3502 Greenlee
Pine Bluff, AR 71603

Dear Mr. Wilbert:

I am writing in response to your letter to President Carter which was forwarded to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In your correspondence, you expressed your views regarding the "burden" placed upon public utilities with specific reference to the General Public Utility Service Corporation.

Since you referred to actions taken by "other government agencies", I thought you might be interested in the actions being taken by the NRC regarding Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1.

As you may be aware, the NRC has ordered that a public hearing be conducted to determine whether the facility should be operated and, if so, under what conditions. The public hearing is scheduled to begin this fall. During the hearing, the technical issues appropriate to assure public health and safety will be addressed. The NRC staff is currently involved in the ongoing review of technical information concerning the restart of Unit 1. Based upon the current status of the proceedings, the development of a record on which the Commission can make a decision regarding restart is not expected before the early part of 1981.

While the NRC is, of course, concerned about financial impacts on consumers and licensees, the NRC's primary responsibility is the assurance of public health and safety. State public commissions and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission have primary responsibility regarding the financial aspects of electrical generation.

Your comments and interest in this matter are appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert W. Reid".

Robert W. Reid, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #4
Division of Licensing

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BILL WILBERT, Divisional Manager
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SALES PROMOTION
SINCE 1902

The President of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I feel the burden placed upon our public utilities, especially those generating electricity by atomic power, by those ecologists and others, place undue hardship on those responsible for supplying the energy for this nation. Safety is one thing but undue restrictions is yet another.

General Public Utility Corporation is a good example of the problem about which I talk. Yes, the problem was severe. Yet not one person was killed or injured due to this problem. I believe all reasonable precautionary measures should be taken to safeguard life and property of those living within a few miles of an atomic plant. However, I feel the regulatory commissions of both New Jersey and Pennsylvania and the actions taken by a number of other government agencies and officials is completely out of order.

We know oil is expensive. We also know that coal and natural gas is a consumable and not a replacement. Atomic energy is by far the cheapest, and probably due to the supply, a more reliable source than any we have at the present time.

Let's quit tying the hands of industry by a few bureaucrats. Let's get about solving part of this inflationary problem by turning people loose and letting the new ideas and new energies in this country fulfill its destiny.

Thank you for your time reading this rather lengthy note.

Respectfully yours,

Bill Wilbert, Mgr.
Delta Division
Vernon Company
Newton, Iowa