



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

AUGUST 1 5 1980

Mr. Lowell Gettys 173 North Second Street Mt. Wolf, Pennsylvania 17347

Dear Mr. Gettys:

Your telegram to President Carter about the health effects of radiation from the Three Mile Island nuclear station was referred to me for response.

A team of investigators from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare calculated the doses to the people living within 50 miles of the Three Mile Island site and estimated the number of new cancers that would result from the exposure to the radioactivity that leaked out of the plant. The team reported their work in a report entitled, "Population Dose and Health Impact of the Accident at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station" (NUREG-0558). They concluded that the offsite collective dose associated with radioactive material released from March 28, 1979, to April 7, 1979, represents minimal risks (that is, a very small number of additional health effects to the offsite population). Enclosed for your information is the summary of NUREG-0558.

I 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, not only at Three Mile Island, but also at all nuclear power plants.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Wellen
Bernard J. Snyder, Program Director

Three Mile Island Program Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: Summary of NUREG-0558

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PMS PRESIDENT JIMMY CAFTEF

WHITE HOUSE DC

I AM TIFED OF MY FAMILY BEI'S SUBJECTED TO THE TMI HEALTH HAZAFD

LOWFLL GETTYS

173 1CFTH 0 ST

MT WOLF FA 17347

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