



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

JULY 15 1980

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Docket No. 50-289

Ms. Virginia R. Dolan
805 Apache Lane
Temple, PA 19560

Dear Ms. Dolan:

I am writing in response to your postcard to the Commissioners concerning the delay in placing Three Mile Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1, back into service.

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 on-going 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.

The former Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) had a Congressional mandate to develop and promote nuclear energy. When the AEC was abolished in 1974, the NRC was created by Congress for the sole purpose of regulating the commercial production of nuclear energy. The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is now responsible for the Federal Government's nuclear research and development activities. Consequently, your comments and questions about the future of this energy source should be directed to that agency.

Your comments and interest in this matter are appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert W. Reid".

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