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September 19, 1980

Mr. Bernard J. Snyder
Program Director
Three Mile Island Program Office
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: Docket 50-320 PEIS - Nureg 0683

Dear Mr. Snyder:

A local citizens' group, LEPOCO, has received a copy of the Programmatic Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Decontamination of TMI-2. (NUREG-0683)

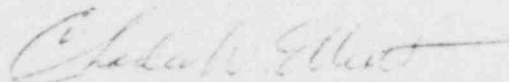
We note that the NRC has imposed a 45 day period for public comment on the document. The document is quite lengthy, highly technical, and indicates that a host of totally new and as yet untested techniques and technology will be employed in the decontamination process. The actual impacts of these techniques is not known with any reasonable certainty, as the document itself admits.

In view of this, the 45 day comment period is far too short to permit the type of intensive review of the document required to permit meaningful comment, and to permit the type of broad public participation which the TMI situation demands. We therefore request that the comment period be extended to a period of at least 90 days.

In addition, public hearings on the PEIS should be held prior to the drafting of the final version, in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR § 1506.6 (C) (1), requiring such hearings when there is "substantial environmental controversy concerning the proposed action or substantial interest in holding the hearing."

Quite obviously, the clean up at TMI and the widespread public interest in the situation at the facility qualifies under those criteria.

Very truly yours,



CHARLES W. ELLIOTT

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CWE:seh
cc: Nancy Tate, LEPOCO
Commissioners, NRC