



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

MEMO

May 21, 1979

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARINGS

TO: Members, Select Committee-TMI

FROM: Honorable James L. Wright, Jr.
Chairman

Public Hearings for the purpose of accepting testimony have been set as follows:

✓ May 31, 1979 ^{12:00 Pm} ~~2:00 P.M.~~ to 9:00 P.M.
Bainbridge Elementary School
Village of Bainbridge

✓ June 6, 1979 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.
Goldsboro Fire Hall
Goldsboro, PA.

Local Borough and Township Officials and local citizens will appear before the Committee.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE - THREE MILE ISLAND

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Verbatim record of hearing held
at Goldsboro Fire Hall, Goldsboro,
Pennsylvania, on Wednesday,

June 6, 1979
7:00 P.M.

HON. JAMES L. WRIGHT, JR., Chairman
Hon. Bernard F. O'Brien, Vice Chairman
Hon. Nicholas B. Moehlmann, Vice Chairman
Hon. Eugene Geesey, Secretary

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POOR ORIGINAL

ALSO PRESENT:

Marshall Rock
Robert Hollis
Fred Taylor

Reported by:
Carol J. Christy

Dorothy M. Malone
Registered Professional Reporter
135 S. Landis Street
Hummelstown, Pennsylvania 17036

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CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We've got a full evening. I would like to get started. I would like to hear testimony from those people who are scheduled and take additional testimony for those of you who wish to make points, you may do so. If you wish to take pictures, you may also do so. I just ask that you don't interfere with the witness when he is taking testimony.

We will run for about an hour to an hour and a half and then take a break so the stenographer can replace the tape and we can make a stop in the restroom, if you so desire.

It's going to be a full evening. I would like your utmost cooperation in maintaining the schedule that's been handed out. You will notice that some have been allowed 15 minutes, and the rest have been allowed ten.

If you keep your comments down to half of the allotted time, then a lot of you may ask questions. If you take up the full allotted time, you will not be able to ask questions.

Our first witness is Dennis Hamsher, Councilman for the Goldsboro Borough.

MR. HAMSHER: On my left this evening is the Mayor of Goldsboro, Ken Meyers; and on my right is our Police Chief, James Herman.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: If the stenographer has any trouble with names or wants spellings, please speak up.

MR. HAMSHER: On Wednesday, March 28, the community of Goldsboro was slowly awakening. Its residents were beginning to carry out their normal everyday routines, not aware that problems existed at Three Mile Island and not knowing they already, without prior warning, were the recipients of unknown amounts of radioactive discharges from TMI, an island about 3/4 of a mile from where we now sit. It was not until some four to six hours later, late morning, that people were finding through the news media that a problem did exist.

As the day progressed we found ourselves engulfed with a barrage of reporters asking questions and taking pictures of those huge towers so close by. The news media knew more than we, the local government officials. Our County Emergency Management office was telling us what the State office apparently told them, that the problem was over, there was no need for alarm. So we, in turn, reassured our residents and tried to go about our normal routines.

We received no additional reports as to the apparent problems at TMI from the sources which should have been keeping us informed, those sources being our County and State Emergency Management offices.

That evening Borough Council met in emergency session to discuss the possibilities of additional problems calling for immediate action. At first we were unable to locate our County Director. We, in turn, contacted the State Office of

Emergency Management to try to get an update on the TMI situation. We found they were on an alert status and the affected Counties and local municipalities were to be also. Keep in mind we were told the problem was over some ten hours earlier. Thursday passed with no additional information other than news reports.

Friday, March 30, another release of radioactive gases from TMI, and again, no prior notification. The York County Emergency Management Director made a decision to go into the first phase of the County's plan which was essentially to stay indoors.

For the first time panic was evident. Upon my arriving in Goldsboro that morning, I passed a crying woman carrying a small infant, running out of town. Arriving at this building I was met with a barrage of State Police officers who wanted to know what was happening and who hit the panic button. Our immediate task was to calm the people, try to reassure them and get additional information. Such information, however, just wasn't available.

Lack of information breeds confusion, and confusion was apparent with every agency we tried to deal with. The State Police did not know what Civil Defense was doing. Civil Defense did not know what DER was doing. DER did not know what Met Ed was doing. No one could seem to get on top of the whole situation.

After inquiries, it became apparent that no one could tell us how much radiation was being emitted from TMI. We requested a radiological monitoring team through the County and found that none was available. We then requested additional detection equipment, and finally received some by a York County Deputy Sheriff, but the equipment was of no value. It could not detect low level radiation which we were dealing with. With one set of instruments we had acquired previously and a crash course for our people in its use with the help of two Met Ed health monitors, we put our own team on the streets.

For years we were led to believe that if this type of situation developed, we would have ample help from the State and County levels. Now we were finding we had to go it ourselves.

Our County emergency plan stated that assistance would be available. For example, the plan stated "The Assistant Director for Radiological Control" will proceed to the scene and evaluate the radiation situation. His findings were to determine if an evacuation would be necessary. This never took place. "The Assistant Director for Law Enforcement" was to establish a command post near the scene in conjunction with the State Police. No County command post was established.

Looking ahead we had to come up with an evacuation plan because it was apparent the County was unprepared to handle effectively any large scale evacuation with its present

limited planning. The Northern York County municipalities came up with a plan to institute if evacuation was necessary. Our plan was later rejected by County officials. Another plan was later instituted by the County.

With this new evacuation plan supposedly finalized, we have yet to receive completed copies of this particular plan. Incidentally, no local government officials have had any input in either the new evacuation plans or the five-mile evacuation plan which was in effect before this accident.

Saturday evening we all could breathe a little easier. The Department of Energy working with the NRC brought into town a mobile laboratory. When we explained to the men accompanying this laboratory about our problems with lack of information, they were able to subside some of our fears. They confirmed most of our radiation readings taken by our own personnel.

By Sunday this town of about 600 was now a town of approximately 80 people. Most residents either by their own accord or by our suggestion had retreated to safer distances with friends or relatives.

The long vigil which started Friday was beginning to take its toll on our emergency team. Some members had to make decisions whether to stay and volunteer their services or leave to be with their families. The long hours, often with only a few hours of sleep a day, was having its effects.

On Sunday we requested help, again, from the County. This time we requested manpower assistance whether it be the National Guard or whatever to relieve some of our own people for much needed rest. One County Commissioner promised to get back to us. However, we never got a reply to our request.

After Sunday it was apparent the only persons we could rely on was the State Police, who worked with us constantly and did an excellent job, the surrounding municipalities assistance, and our own personnel.

Monday and Tuesday were routine days with our continuation of our work in taking radiation readings, patrolling the borough limits and keeping our command post in operation.

By Wednesday, April 4, most of the town's residents were returning, and it was apparent we would be able to phase down our 24-hour operation. With approximately 75 percent of the residents returning, no longer was looting and vandalism a major concern.

Looking back over those infamous days, our problems are more apparent now. The accident occurred; late notification accompanied by very little knowledgeable technical information regarding our situation. In addition, the lack of proper radiological instrumentation and trained radiological monitoring personnel. Radiological detection teams apparently were not immediately available to confirm what Met Ed was telling

us. The lack of proper planning on the State and County and Local levels. Proper planning should include local government emergency representatives who know their communities' particular needs. Poor communication was apparent. For local government to act responsibly to any emergency, they have to know all information available pertaining to the emergency. Many notices that were sent from the State level to the County level never reached the local level. Local government cannot do its job if it is not given the necessary tools and assistance.

It is quite apparent that we were not all adequately prepared to handle this type of emergency. When dealing with normal types of emergencies, such as fires and floods, we can see what we are contending with. We can act with limited information. However, with radiation we cannot see what we are to be protecting our people from.

The proper agencies must be on top of the situation immediately and transfer all pertinent information to County and Local levels so they can act accordingly.

Memories of the Three Mile Island accident will be with us for the rest of our lives. We must see to it that generations hence do not have to live through the same hell we have experienced because of this accident. We must see to it that we are adequately prepared to cope with this type of emergency even though it was never supposed to happen. It is government's job to protect our people, and it is time we

started doing the job effectively.

Thank you.

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY:

Q During parts of your testimony you indicated that you had requested additional detection equipment and finally received some from the York County Sheriff. Do you recall when you requested that equipment?

A We requested that equipment Friday morning right after the second release from Three Mile Island.

Q How long did it take you to get that equipment?

A Approximately an hour and a half.

Q And you indicated in your testimony that the equipment you got didn't work.

A That's correct. The problem with the equipment was it measured radiation in roentgens, not in milliroentgens; and it was useless for the type of situation we were up against.

Q You also indicated that the Northern York County municipalities came up with a plan for evacuation, if necessary. To the best of your knowledge, was that plan approved by the County Commissioners and the County CD Director?

A In the beginning of the emergency, the plan was approved because the County didn't have anything. They were just trying to get together a last-minute sort of thing to come up with something, and we were the only ones at that time that had an evacuation plan -- a workable plan, we feel.

It wasn't until later, in fact a day later, that the County came up with their plan.

Q And you also indicated that to this day you have never received a copy of a current evacuation plan; yet tonight, if TMI again went into an accident stage, you don't have an evacuation plan in your possession from the County so that you would know exactly what steps you follow?

A That's correct. The only thing we have is what we received in the courthouse in York that Sunday during the emergency, that piece of paper that said that the Goldsboro residents were supposed to go to the Brogue area in the event of an evacuation. And that's all that paper states.

Q You are aware of the fact, where at least you indicated that a plan had been developed?

A That's correct.

Q What happened to it? Has it been put in print?

A Well, from what I have been told by the County Director, the first 200 copies or so that came off the presses were taken elsewhere. We are waiting for the second printing or third printing or whatever.

Q Where did he tell you they were taken?

A I understand the State office of Civil Defense apparently took some, and I'm sure other agencies.

Q Any other place that you're aware of or that you were told that they were taken?

A No.

Q You're saying that finally the County has a plan maybe, but it's never been given to the communities who are involved in an evacuation if an evacuation was necessary, but rather was taken by the State office?

A That's correct. Apparently it's more apparent that somebody else sees the plan than the County government, the County municipalities.

REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY: Thank you. No further questions.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We have time for one more question. Any questions down there?

BY CHAIRMAN WRIGHT:

Q If I understand you correctly, there was no plan in your possession prior to the accident?

A Only a five-mile plan was in our possession, a five-mile plan that we weren't even going by, the County wasn't even going by. It was a plan that called for evacuation to the Fishing Creek School.

Well, as things turned out during the emergency, York County Emergency Operations Center talked of going to Central High School, a school that we never even heard of during any previous plan. They were telling us to take our pregnant women and children to Central High School. I

questioned where did Central High School come into this thing?

Q Where is that relative to here?

A In York somewhere.

Q How many miles?

A Eighteen, twenty.

REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY: It's not that far. It's about 12.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We thank you very much.

MR. HAMSHER: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Bruce Smith, Chairman, Newberry Township Supervisors.

MR. SMITH: I want to be sure that I can be heard. I was sitting in the back of the room, and I couldn't hear. Can you hear me in the back of the room?

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Okay.

MR. SMITH: I am Chairman of the Newberry Township Board of Supervisors. Newberry is a community of 8,500 residents here in York County. Newberry completely surrounds Goldsboro. In fact, all roads into Goldsboro must pass through Newberry Township.

Like many other elected officials, I did not evacuate during the crisis so my remarks and observations are as a direct result of my experience.

Approximately 50 percent of the residents of Newberry Township did evacuate during the crisis, and 90 percent of the

residents in my development, which is two and a half miles from TMI, evacuated.

The citizens of my community have suffered financially and mentally through the fiasco of Three Mile Island. They stand to lose more financially and suffer more mental anguish depending upon the recommendations of this commission. But, no matter what your findings, no matter what your recommendations, no matter whether the nuclear reactors are re-activated, all of the residents living within the five-mile radius have four gigantic, permanent reminders of Three Mile Island.

These four reminders dominate the five-mile radius area of Three Mile Island just as the skyscrapers dominate the New York City skyline. The difference, of course, is the psychology accompanying the effect of seeing the towers. These constant reminders of the accident also constantly remind residents of the five-mile area of radiation, Met Ed, NRC, evacuation and, in some cases, panic.

The size and proximity of these four towers also explains why the distance from the tower means so much in an objective or emotional opinion about Three Mile Island.

For the sake of brevity I have narrowed my problems with TMI to four basic areas, one for each of the towers:

First, poor communication. The first elements of distrust formed in the manner in which the news of the first release of radioactivity was spread throughout the area. I

was called to the office of the high school where I teach at 10:30 A.M. and informed on the phone by two Harrisburg reporters that there was a release of radioactivity at Three Mile Island. I called our police department for confirmation and learned that a Met Ed truck crew was indeed measuring radioactivity on Wissler Road in Newberry Township. During the entire period of the crisis, the only way to learn what was happening at Three Mile Island and the Central Pennsylvania area was to watch the 6:00 news or buy a newspaper. I can understand this for the rest of the world, but not for the municipalities next to TMI.

Second, the evacuation plan. From the moment of the first radioactive release, the evacuation plan was not followed. In our case, perhaps, the real reason the plans were not followed to the letter is the fact that the evacuation point for Newberry Township was Fishing Creek Elementary School, which was evacuated on Friday, March 30. I have attached a copy of the evacuation plan and a newspaper article to substantiate my allegation. In the newspaper article the director of York County Civil Defense, Leo Jackson, told the newspaper reporter that had he known the truth at an earlier time, he would have initiated phase one of the evacuation plan. Phase one calls for all residents to stay indoors because of a release of radioactivity into the atmosphere. Phase one would have kept our school-age children indoors on

Wednesday morning. Instead, Goldsboro, Fairview and Newberry Township children were outside waiting for school buses on Wednesday morning and Friday morning when radioactivity was definitely in the atmosphere.

My third problem area is the insurance payments for those who evacuated following the Governor's recommendations. To draw a parallel, each of you lives close to some landmark. Now can you tell me exactly how far you live from that landmark? If it's five and one-quarter miles and not five miles, that spells the difference between being paid and not being paid. Would you bother to measure if you had already been frightened by conflicting news releases? Now let's add another unknown, the age of your children. Would you stay for your seven year old and evacuate if he were a year or two younger? Now make your decision when you're at home alone and your husband can't even call you from Harrisburg because all the telephone lines are jammed.

The final rip-off for Newberry Township residents occurred after the accident when NRC brought the body scan machine to Middletown. Not only did residents of this area have to drive 20 miles to Middletown for a body scan, township and Goldsboro residents were not even eligible for body scans until I personally complained to DER. After much ado, Newberry Township residents could call long distance, at their own expense, to arrange an appointment. Then township

residents could drive, at their own expense, all the way to Middletown. Then the final insult, long lines at the body scan machine. At a public meeting in Newberry Township, Mr. Gerusky of DER stated that the biggest mistake he made was the body scan agreement with NRC.

Four towers, four rip-offs for Newberry Township. The Washington reporter who wrote about the meltdown of trust knew the minds of many residents who live within the five-mile radius. We trusted both Met Ed and the NRC before March 28th. The trust has been destroyed and there are four permanent, gigantic, towering reminders of our lost faith. We thank God that no meltdown occurred within the reactor, but not even God can restore the meltdown of trust that has occurred in Newberry Township and Central Pennsylvania.

Two of the four problems can be corrected by this Committee, improved communications and improved evacuation plan. Representative Gene Geesey worked with Newberry Township during the crisis and knows very well the ridiculous plan and destination now in effect for our residents. It seems to me that the fallacy inherent in the present evacuation plan is that no thought is given to which way the wind is blowing. No way will our residents evacuate to the south if the wind is blowing down river. Effective, realistic evacuation plans are a must for every community near a nuclear power plant. Never again should a municipality experience the uncertainty,

the frustrations nor the fears of Three Mile Island.

The meltdown of trust toward Met Ed and NRC can only be alleviated through a slow process of communication and cooperation between local residents and responsible officials. An effective tool in building process of mutual trust could be implemented through the recommendations of this commission. Local residents need more than one night of speeches. They need and desire to serve their own local communities through volunteer service. They want measuring devices to check on Met Ed, DER and NRC. This committee could recommend the purchase of radiological equipment by the State, and provide funds and training for the individuals willing to be schooled in reading radiation instruments. Trust could be rebuilt in the community.

Secondly, involve local residents in making decisions about evacuation plans. Don't assign a bureaucrat in York with the responsibility of planning Newberry's evacuation without even checking with Newberry. We know our roads, our people and our problems. Give our people a chance to be involved with the decisions that affect their lives.

My third and final request is that this Committee not allow politics or economics to interfere with the public safety of the citizens of Newberry Township.

That concludes my remarks, gentlemen.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Smith.

BY CHAIRMAN WRIGHT:

Q How many residents of Newberry Township took advantage or were allowed to take advantage of the body scan?

A I have no idea, sir. I know that the initial reports in the newspapers said that it was only for residents of the east shore. Therefore, if Newberry Township and Goldsboro residents called, they weren't eligible at first. Then after our meeting and my complaints, there was an article in the newspaper that west shore residents, that being us, could qualify. And my remarks were about one person very, very concerned and wanted a body scan very badly. And she went through all that plus the long lines and never got the body scan.

Q You stated that Mr. Gerusky of DER stated that the biggest mistake he made was the body scan agreement with NRC. Can you elaborate on that? I have not heard that one before.

A He stated that at a public meeting at Newberry Elementary School. As I recall it, he said his problem with that was that NRC came in and said we have these body scan machines and you can take all the credit for it. And whenever there was a problem, NRC called DER and turned it over to them. I believe that's about his words.

Mickey, is that about right?

MR. MINNICH: Yes, as I recollect.

MR. SMITH: That's about what he said, in synopsis.

Whenever there was a problem, they called DER; and they wanted to get the credit when everything was going well. I think it would be valuable for you to question Mr. Gerusky on that.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Ivan?

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q One question. I just want to ask on page four of your testimony you make the statement trust could be rebuilt in the community. Could you expand on that in a statement?

A I'm sure you're aware that there are a number of people who are psychologically upset by the incident, and one of the things which occurred is that the people in Newberry Township that have been active with the Three Mile Island crisis receive phone calls whenever there is a lot of activity, whenever the helicopters are in. If there were measuring devices local residents had, I think there would be more trust if somebody said we're getting nothing but the regular background reading. Now that specifically is what I meant. I'm not sure if you follow me.

Q It seems the drift of your statement is one of optimism that provided some reasonable conditions are met in support of monitoring, that the residents of your effected area would be inclined to not necessarily object to having a nuclear power generator station continue to operate at Three Mile Island.

A I didn't say that, sir. What I meant was, and I'm

sure that you're aware that -- as I understand it -- I'm an English teacher. I'm not a science teacher. As I understand it, it's not in what is known as cold shutdown. As I understand it from other people, there is still danger involved with it. So we are still getting phone calls from people who are concerned. I don't know if the trust could ever be rebuilt enough for a nuclear reactor to be reactivated. I was very concerned -- I was pleased when Mr. DeCamp met with Newberry Township people and we tried to get across to him our concerns and the concerns of residents psychologically about nuclear power. I was very much disturbed when I saw a week later when he said they're going to activate it again in August. And I'm sure that you are aware also that the Harrisburg newspaper had a strong editorial yesterday saying it should not be done. I'm disappointed that Mr. DeCamp forgot that quickly our concerns.

Q The only concern I have reading the statement if you take a negative position in respect to bringing either unit one or unit two back on line, then all intentions of possession of sophisticated monitoring equipment or having a well-defined evacuation plan in case of a nuclear accident becomes moot because you don't have a nuclear plant actively producing power. I have a problem here. If the community is willing to accept or willing to allow certain conditions, then I can see your thesis here. But to give you radiological equipment

and to concern ourselves about evacuation plans for Newberry Township and then keep TMI shut down, you know, continuously doesn't make sense to me.

A I follow you completely. And I think if you would think of it from our angle, a number of -- and I'm speaking as an individual -- I would prefer that it be shut down, that we wouldn't need any of this. But I'm not sure that you all and the NRC and all the responsible individuals will agree. So I'm covering all the bases, because no way should it be reactivated unless you take all of these precautions. And furthermore, I think, and it should be well apparent to all of you, when you look on the evacuation plan and you know that when we met with Gene during the crisis, and we're talking about a 20-mile evacuation plan, that takes in Harrisburg. I think there was a lot of ill-conceived planning when they allowed this nuclear power plant to be built here this close to Harrisburg and this close to New Cumberland and this close to Mechanicsburg.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Smith.

REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY:

Q Bruce, at any point in time did any County official from the CD Director's office or any other County official visit Newberry Township to find out what the problems were?

A To my knowledge, I never saw anybody from the County.

Q No one was here from the County level to find out firsthand what was happening, to your knowledge?

A No, sir. To my knowledge, the day you went down with Township officials to York and the day that they called -- and I don't know -- I couldn't hear Denny. But did he tell you they called all the York County officials to the County Courthouse Sunday morning, and they gave us evacuation plans that Denny mentioned. And they said you are not allowed to release these, to distribute these. You cannot give the destination to the people. And you have got all of these elected officials, and you knew very well it wasn't going to be followed. It was the most ridiculous thing I have ever seen as an elected official. And the predictable happened. Everybody started distributing them without permission.

REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY: As well they should have.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Mr. Arthur Shaffer.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Mr. Arthur Shaffer.

MR. SHAFFER: With me is William Collins, Chief of Police of Fairview Township.

This is the testimony of Arthur L. Shaffer, Sr., Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Fairview Township, York County, Pennsylvania, related to the nuclear accident at Three Mile Island, Middletown, PA, which occurred approximately March 28,

1979.

Although I was aware of the accident from earlier news broadcasts, Fairview Township was not fully aware of the incident nor the magnitude of it until 9:45 A.M., Friday, March 30, 1979. Volunteer Fire Chief/Pennsylvania Emergency Management Administration Director Kenneth Rodgers had received notification from York County Control to take cover with a five-mile radius of Three Mile Island.

At 9:50 A.M. a call to the State Police Barracks at York was made, and they advised there was no take cover order. At 10:05 A.M. the State Police called back and advised there was a take cover order. The police and fire departments then began notification to the residents.

Our Zoning Officer made a determination of the five-mile radius by marking an approximate location of TMI in the margin of a township map and using a ruler came up with the radius. We subsequently learned after the incident that we were approximately one mile too far.

On Friday, March 30, 1979, after weighing all the conflicting information and not being able to find an authoritative source, a meeting was held with the West Shore School District authorities sometime in the late morning, and it was decided to evacuate Fishing Creek and Newberry Elementary Schools and Red Land High School.

Approximately half of the children had already been

taken out of the schools by their parents, and we felt rather than sending them home to a probable empty house and telling them to stay indoors, it was better to try to retain some kind of control over them. The Northern School District in Dillsburg was kind enough to offer their facilities for this, and that is where the children were transported. The last child was picked up at approximately 6:00 P.M. Friday night.

During our normal mail delivery which came around noon on March 30, 1979, we received the County's confidential emergency evacuation plan. It stated the people to be evacuated would be moved to Fishing Creek Elementary School and an evacuation center would be established at Red Land High School.

Late Friday afternoon we assigned a police officer to York County Control to stay there to obtain any information that might be beneficial to our township. We were very upset because of the lack of information and conflicting information we were receiving and felt this officer may have been able to relay some accurate information. This was not the case. As we later learned no one had any accurate information.

On Saturday morning a contingent of Fairview Township officials went to York County and met with Leslie Jackson, York County Pennsylvania Emergency Management Administration Director, and Robert Stiemmel, Central Pennsylvania Regional Director -- and I'd like to use the word Civil Defense Director. I think everybody understands it much better -- to determine

what plans had been made for evacuating Fairview Township. From the news accounts, it appeared there may be an evacuation of either a five-, ten- or 20-mile radius. The CD people were not sure, and we suggested that we take all the municipalities north of the Conewago Creek and move them to Gettysburg. We had made contact with some officials in Gettysburg and were reasonably assured that we could evacuate to Gettysburg College.

Leaving the courthouse at 10:00 A.M., we scheduled a meeting for 12:30 P.M. with the above-mentioned municipalities in the Fairview Township Building. We began the meeting at 12:45 P.M. with 46 people in attendance representing 15 jurisdictions. We asked for suggestions from anyone present and explained that York/Central Pennsylvania Regional CD had given us permission and thanked us for taking "half the County off their hands" to go to Gettysburg College.

We were gearing up for this move if needed when York called and stated we were not allowed to evacuate to Gettysburg College. We were to attend a meeting at 3:00 P.M. in the courthouse with the Commissioners.

We informed the people present of this and scheduled another meeting for 7:00 P.M. to inform them of what we learned. On arrival at the courthouse, we were told by Mr. Jackson that we could not go to Gettysburg, and he was not at liberty to tell us where we were to go. Representative Geesey was the only one allowed to speak to the Commissioners.

I subsequently broke into the meeting because of my concern and responsibility for Fairview Township. The eventual outcome of this meeting was the County was going to tell us where our residents were to go regardless of what the Township thought. It was brought to the attention of the Commissioners that by traveling south on I-83 we would come within four miles of TMI, and there were very few of our residents within this four-mile radius. The majority of our people are between a five- and ten-mile radius.

We were later told we would go to the Brogue area -- our chief of police had to look that up on the map, as he had no idea where Brogue was -- but were given no copy of the plan.

The Police Commissioner of York City and a National Guard Major, besides the County people, were the only ones who had copies of the plan on Saturday. It appeared the County was only concerned with the City of York rather than the outlying closer to TMI communities. We were also ordered by the County not to divulge the location of the evacuation area. There was no reason given for this.

We then cancelled the 7:00 P.M. meeting because there was nothing to tell.

The elected officials of the various municipalities in York County were called to a meeting Sunday morning at the courthouse. We then received the plan. All persons in Fairview Township residing east of I-83 would go to the Brogue

area, while all persons residing west of I-83 would go to Spring Grove. This plan practically split the township in half. Again we were chastised about not revealing this plan to the public.

We returned to the township and decided to print a notice informing our residents of the evacuation areas and some other pertinent information relating to the crisis. We asked for volunteers from our community to pass this information sheet out, and with few exceptions, everyone asked responded. Every home in the township had a notice by 10:00 P.M. Sunday night.

We decided to announce the locations because of all the mis-information that had been circulating, and we felt the people had a right to know. To our knowledge some other municipalities also announced the evacuation locations, but this did not influence our decision.

There appeared to be no agency, either public or private, that had any credibility left; and we wanted to retain what we had left. During the above times, it appeared that approximately half of our residents had evacuated on their own. We assume that they did this more out of the fear of the unknown rather than for any specific reason.

Also during this time we began gearing up and located persons who had no transportation and non-ambulatory persons so we could evacuate them when and if the order came.

We also told anyone contacting us that if they were uncomfortable with the situation and they would feel better, to evacuate.

As a result of this accident, Fairview Township incurred additional expenses of \$2,656.87. These monies were devoted exclusively to the TMI incident. Our local taxpayers are responsible for this expenditure, and we had no control or voice in this.

York County has instituted a revised evacuation plan. This plan is substantially the same, and our constituents still must go to Spring Grove or the Brogue area. Located within the township is Exit 18 (Harrisburg West Shore) of the Pennsylvania Turnpike. As of this date, there has been no discussion of the use of the limited-access high speed highway for the speedy dispersal of our residents.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you. Has anybody ever offered an explanation subsequent to why you're not getting any explanations?

MR. SHAFFER: Not to me personally, no.

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY:

Q Artie, there's one thing that I think the Committee ought to know, and that is what kind of roads would the people of Northern York County be forced to evacuate on if they followed the evacuation plan set forth by the County Officer.

A If they would follow the one set forth by the County,

they would -- part of them could use Interstate 83. It even was discussed that they would make it four way, all going south. Certainly I wouldn't want to be myself on the south-bound lanes. The outlying areas when they would start coming into the area of York, I think it would be just terrible. It would be tied up in York, period.

Q It would be a two-lane country road going through a bunch of small towns?

A After you would leave Interstate 83, you would have a two-lane highway. Then it would be going through a lot of municipalities. It would be very, very dangerous. It would be the worst thing that could possibly happen.

Q Were there any kinds of medical facilities available at the evacuation points? Were there hospitals? Was there anything of that type available?

A Mr. Geesey, are you referring to the County's plan?

Q The County's plan.

A There were supposed to be, but it was set up in the schools, and this would not be the appropriate way to do it for an evacuation.

REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY: I have no further questions.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If I might respond to that, Gene, the only emergency facilities were set up for hospitals in Hanover, and all medical emergencies would be taken to Hanover and the other non-medical emergencies would apparently

be taken care of in the evacuation centers in Brogue and Spring Grove.

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY:

Q Why was Gettysburg originally selected? What was one of the reasons for Gettysburg?

A Mr. Geesey, the number one reason is your prevailing winds are out of the west, and you have good highway going west going to Gettysburg. Even people that would be leaving from this area here, the minute they started their car they would be going away from it. They wouldn't be coming closer. Any kind of field expedience would evacuate to the west.

Q But it also had a hospital?

A There was a hospital, yes, in Gettysburg.

Q And also they knew where it was.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Cohen.

BY REPRESENTATIVE COHEN:

Q Did you have any contact with TMI before this incident?

A No, not really.

Q Was there any contact with TVI in Fairview Township?

A Prior to this?

Q Prior to this, yes.

A Not really.

Q Has there been any contact since?

A No.

REPRESENTATIVE COHEN: No further questions.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Bob Hollis.

BY MR. HOLLIS:

Q I have one question. Since the plans have been published, and we're talking about the County plan, has there been any readings among the local officials and the County officials besides that thing where it's a workable plan now?

A There has been none with the local municipalities, and I can only speak for Fairview Township. I cannot speak for the other ones. But I would like to inform you at this time that Fairview Township is working on a plan for evacuation. It may not be approved, but we're trying to work a plan.

Q But there's been no meetings as far as you know between the County and Local elected officials in the townships?

A I think there has been one meeting with the police for evacuation, traffic control.

MR. COLLINS: York County Police Chiefs met shortly after the incident, and we discussed a plan, a County plan, as we have no authority to go against the County plan.

REPRESENTATIVE COHEN: What I'm talking about now is in the past couple weeks.

MR. SHAPPER: Oh, no, sir.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you. Our next witness is

Dr. Jacob Wentzel, Superintendent, West Shore School District.

DR. WENTZEL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Select Committee, I appreciate this opportunity to give you some idea of some of the problems we experienced as a school district during the crisis. I am going to enumerate a number of problems and try to indicate perhaps some ways in which we could have dealt with them better.

I think our first and primary problem was the fact that the public, and, of course, we, included as professionals in the school district, are largely uninformed of the possible dangers of a nuclear plant accident of the kind we experienced. Many of us in the schools that had some experience back in the '50's with the nuclear evacuation due to possible nuclear warfare. We had some idea of how to go about things in that sense. Of course, in this particular accident we were dealing with a very different situation. We knew about radiation to some degree. We knew there were different types. We knew it had different penetration. We were very curious about the orders to stay indoors because we realized that certain types of radiation, of course, are not staid very much by typical school construction.

Meltdown was a new term to us, and I'm sure to the public, generally. We had no idea of whether danger was increasing or whether danger was decreasing.

The particular problem we experienced due to the

fact that we, as those responsible for the system and the children which we housed at that time as well as the general public, the main problem we experienced, of course, was the usual kind of reaction to people who don't know what's going on. Our schools were rapidly, of course, approached by parents concerned about their children. I think Mr. Shaffer has just indicated that about half of our youngsters had been removed from the schools by noon. That's true. We had a great number of parents who, of course, followed usual procedures and reported to the office and that sort of thing. We had other parents, of course, who experienced some degree of panic, entered our schools and literally jerked youngsters out of the classrooms. You can imagine the situation that was created by some of that.

Our phone systems, of course, were jammed. That, I suppose, ^{is} standard procedure. We really had no idea in terms of what we should do about the school, keep them open or closed.

The information we were getting was conflicting. We just didn't know what decisions to make because we simply didn't have the facts, and that's my point. In the future I would hope that the facts would be made available so that we did know what we were dealing with and how to react to it. Of course, we realized that this particular kind of accident now we would know a great deal more about how to deal with it.

Many weeks later, for instance, I read in the news-

papers that there had been previous meltdowns on a limited scale, so certainly there was some information available about them, but we didn't know what they were or what we could expect.

The second point I would like to make is that the lines of authority for emergency situations such as this were really not established. As you would recognize, of course, we operate at the direction of our Board of Directors under law, and in their absence, of course, in an emergency situation like this there was no way to convene a Board and obtain any direction in that sense. The direction of the schools would fall to the staff. We did receive one communication to my knowledge from the Intermediate Unit, which was originated from the Pennsylvania Department of Education through a teletype system which they have at all the IU's. This came at about 12:50 on Friday, the day of the most problems. And the direction was that we were to take the children out of those schools which were within five miles of TMI, and we were to take them home. Of course, that created all kinds of problems for us. We were hearing other kinds of information on the radio saying keep everybody indoors. We were also concerned about who would be at home.

We do have emergency procedures where families who know they are not going to be home have designated emergency families, but it was hardly a usual situation, and we were

just very uneasy about releasing children to homes. And, in fact, being home alone for a young child in that kind of a situation we felt would be very bad. Again on the question of lines of authority, the Civil Defense organization certainly was not very clear in our minds. The West Shore School District happens to span two counties; and, therefore, we generally communicated with York and Cumberland Civil Defense people. We consist of eight municipalities, and we were hearing from some of them, not from all of them but certainly from Fairview, as you've just heard, from Goldsboro and others. We were curious in terms of what the Civil Defense organization legally had the authority to shut us down. We subsequently were informed that if the local municipal where government authorities declared an emergency that, in fact, Civil Defense officials could close us down.

That creates a problem for us with eight municipalities. We at one point heard from the Civil Defense people that we were supposed to put our buses on standby, bring out our drivers and, in fact, stand ready to evacuate the people from Dauphin County, which gave us all kinds of problems because we feel our commitment, of course, close to home.

We did hear, also, from, as I say, several of our municipalities, of which there are eight, some from the elected officials, some from the employees, the police chiefs, and fire chiefs. We were really being pulled in all directions

and trying to cover all bases at that particular time. I would certainly recommend that the plans now being established really do establish clear lines of authority in the event of emergencies of a similar nature, and those lines of authority should, of course, cover the schools, which have some responsibility in the whole thing.

The third point I have perhaps touched on already, and I am sure you have heard of before, and that is communications were very difficult. The commercial phone system was largely jammed. We do have in our office and have had for quite a time a hookup with the Cumberland County Emergency Radio Network. Interestingly enough, that network was of no value in that no significant messages were recorded over it. Our messages from Cumberland County Civil Defense were received by phone generally from the Civil Defense Director of the County. The public radio certainly was of some value, and we were particularly pleased with the fact that the Governor himself reported because credibility, of course, was a very critical factor at that point and it was very re-assuring to hear the voice of the Governor himself. We just this year installed radios in half our buses, and we found some additional uses for that system in that it became very invaluable for internal communications, and in subsequent emergencies we would be able to react much better by placing buses with our radios at schools and thereby establishing radio communications

with all of our schools. Certainly it was a great deal of conflicting information and, again, this goes back to the lines of authority. Depending on whom we heard from, the message was different. We just had to make some judgments on our own.

We were largely told to keep children indoors and at the same time to send them home. I think there is a definite need for looking at the present emergency radio system and, in fact, using it in time of emergency rather than -- I never did understand why it wasn't used.

We did receive some messages, but not significant ones.

A fourth point is that the role of the schools has not been defined, to my knowledge, in an emergency situation. We have, of course, given our consent whenever asked by County or Local municipal Civil Defense organizations, we have given our consent readily to make our buildings available for use as evacuation centers. We have done that during the Agnes and Eloise floods. We're very happy to do that. We had no idea in this particular instance that two of our buildings had been designated as collection points for further evacuations. Now that was a concept that perhaps I had not understood. We had allocated two of our buildings in the event of a TMI emergency, but we didn't realize they were simply weigh stations. Of course, we were to be set upon by people saying

why are you going to evacuate people to those buildings, most of which just within a few miles of the plant itself? We had no idea of the use of our buses for evacuation, although I supposedly could have surmised that. There are a number of logistics problems, as you would expect, in making a fleet of buses available. We happen to have 50. Bus drivers drive as second income as a rule. They have primary jobs. They are not readily available. So we were able to mobilize 25 and to keep them available at all times. Our teaching staff agreed to help us out on the off hours; and, of course, we were very pleased to receive that promise.

We also again were caught in the question of allocating our bus fleet to the various municipalities, so we had a number of requests of the boroughs and townships in Cumberland County particularly asked for certain numbers of buses. We were rather confused in terms of how we could meet all of the requests. The Civil Defense plan, which was developed in Cumberland County, was hastily drawn and was on a municipal basis. Therefore, we find ourselves again trying to communicate with eight different entities.

We recognized that our first responsibility, of course, that school is in session to transport our children either to home or to a safe location, in fact, the parents don't have to be home. So again I would recommend in that sense that the emergency plans now being developed and refined

would, in fact, define school district responsibility very carefully. We would like to be involved. We have been involved in the Cumberland County planning since then. We have not been involved in any York County planning at this point. We certainly recognize our responsibility first to our students, and beyond that to the extent that we are able to our citizens, we stand ready to make our buildings available as shelters and, of course, make our buses available for any transportation that we can provide.

These are some of the problems we experienced, and we look forward to working with the Civil Defense organizations, municipal organizations in the future so we are better prepared.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Foster.

BY REPRESENTATIVE FOSTER:

Q Just one question, Dr. Wentzel. Would you concur with the previous testimony from Mr. Shaffer concerning evacuation routes to Brogue area?

A I wouldn't really presume to have any expertise about that. I personally do not know where Brogue is.

Q Of course that's part of the problem, and as I was just saying you go right down Route 74 right through Dallastown and Reveline (phonetic), and we have difficulty enough there in morning and evening traffic. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Brandt.

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRANDT:

Q Dr. Wentzel, according to Mr. Shaffer's testimony, your decision to keep the children in school on Friday, you decided around noon to keep the children there the rest of the day?

A Yes, that's correct. That was a continuing concern, but --

Q And that decision was drawn -- that conclusion was made between you and township officials?

A No, I think the decision to retain the youngsters was ours, was a staff decision.

Q School district and city?

A Yes.

Q Was there any input in that decision from the Department of Education or the Civil Defense?

A Well, as I indicated, at 12:50 we did receive word from the Department through the Intermediate Unit that, in fact, we were to send those children home from schools within five miles.

Q Is there somebody in your district that is within three miles?

A Yes. At that time, as Mr. Shaffer indicated, we felt we had three schools within a five-mile region. It turns out we have only one. The rest are outside.

Q But the final decision to keep the children in

school was with the administration of the schools?

A That's correct.

Q And one other question. You kept school through Friday. Then when did you re-open your school the following week?

A We re-opened on Wednesday.

Q You re-opened on Wednesday, the full district?

A No, the Newberry School, which is within five miles, did not open until the previous week, Tuesday of the previous week -- excuse me, the following week. So we opened except for Newberry.

Q Then Newberry is the closest school to TMI?

A That's correct.

Q How long was that closed?

A That was closed for six days.

Q And I didn't quite get what you were saying about -- your input into any type of an emergency evacuation plan. Do you, as a school district, have any input into that plan at this time?

A At this time?

Q Yes.

A We've been involved in Cumberland. We have not been involved or invited to participate in any York County plan.

Q Does your school district overlap in two counties?

A Yes, it does.

REPRESENTATIVE BRANDT: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Cohen.

BY REPRESENTATIVE COHEN:

Q Has there been any decline in enrollment since the TMI incident?

A I don't know how we'd measure that. When we opened, of course, we were running 60, 70 percent for a few days.

Q And is it up around 100 percent now?

A Attendance came back up, I'd say, within five days to normal level.

REPRESENTATIVE COHEN: Okay. No more questions.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Geesey.

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY:

Q Jake, who told you to keep your buses on standby for Dauphin County?

A That came out of the Cumberland County Civil Defense office, the Director there.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: For Dauphin County?

REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY: For Dauphin County.

DR. WENTZEL: Tom Glosser, Cumberland County Civil Defense, called and asked us to do that.

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY:

Q But he understood that Western District encompassed a great geographical area within the five- and ten-mile range?

A I don't know that, Gene.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Bob.

BY MR. HOLLIS:

Q One question. How is your planning now going with the Cumberland County Emergency people as far as coordinating the evacuation and -- you mentioned your staff meeting in Cumberland County. You are not meeting in York?

A That's correct.

Q Is it meaningful discussions with Cumberland County, that they are accepting your comments and --

A There's only been one preliminary meeting, Bob, and I did not attend that meeting.

Q So it's your staff?

A Yes.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Schmitt.

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHMITT:

Q Being just commercial for the moment and changing the subject to at least something which I'm familiar with. Can you reflect to me or to this Committee what reaction there has been insofar as the real estate values in the community are concerned? I think Gene would be interested in that, too.

A I suppose -- again, I really have no knowledge of that. I've heard both sides, people are moving out because of it and real estate people with whom I'm associated tell me that

it doesn't seem to make any difference. I really have no knowledge.

Q I saw a report of it in the paper, and it stumped me because, in my opinion, something like this would cause what we call economic depression on the value of property. Here we have a situation where I think you suffer financially as a result of this, at the same time you expect somebody to pick up the burden of their losses which, to me, is preposterous. The question of real estate values has a direct bearing on what has been caused economically as a result of this threat, annually over a period.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Itkin.

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q During the time of using the school buses to evacuate or parents picking up the children, was there detectable radiation, to the best of your knowledge, in your effected area?

A To the best of my knowledge, there was never detectable radiation.

Q Do the school bus drivers or the personnel used to transport the students have any plan how to handle the students in the transport process to avoid radiation?

A To avoid certain areas or -- no.

Q Not necessarily -- in the route to be taken, but also the best protection of the students. For example, were

they allowed to go in a school bus and open the windows? Were they allowed to mingle freely within the confines of the vehicle? Or were they given any instructions to protect them to the best ability possible to prevent them from getting the least amount of radiation possible?

A To my knowledge, sir, there were no instructions to drivers on that account.

Q And to the best of your knowledge there is no suggested guidelines to be followed in that regard?

A No.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We thank you, sir, and we will now take a short five-minute break.

(The hearing recessed at 8:15 P.M. and reconvened at 8:20 P.M.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Our next witness is Mickey Minnich, Chairman, TMI Steering Committee Concerned Citizens. You have ten minutes for your presentation.

MR. MINNICH: I think I'll probably have to shout because of the train and the bad acoustics. My name is Mickey Minnich; and, basically, gentlemen, I'm an educator by profession. I am currently an Assistant Principal at Steelton Highspire High School. I am a member of the Steering Committee, Newberry Township Steering Committee for TMI, got involved with the slogan basically when I read Smith's article in the

paper "Never Again". And that only made me call and volunteer my services. Since then I have attended so many meetings. I am becoming saturated with so much information trying to get informed. We have many Congressmen, Senators, Congressman Geesey at our meetings, to talk about this. In fact, I would recommend some super books for you to read just to take a second. We Almost Lost Detroit. And what I really was amazed about here was back in 1952 in an accident with atomic reactors they said had a hydrogen bubble, one they said they never could conceive that that would ever happen. 1952. You can check this before I leave tonight.

My next book, it talks about some accidents and thefts of nuclear material in Pennsylvania. It's an excellent book by the Scientist Institute for Public Information on Radiation Contamination. And the next one that's being referred to is Silent Spring. This gentleman just visited our area. The New Tyranny by Robert Wheeler (phonetic). It's an excellent book.

I just point this out because of all the information out.

I live three and a half miles from TMI, depending on who's map you use, and I evacuated for approximately ten days. I have two small children, seven and nine, and that got me in my first big argument with Governor Thornburgh's evacuation notice. When I called up and said does radiation

know the difference between my nine year old son and my seven year old son and I think x-ray knows the difference between body weight, not age.

So right away I questioned the wisdom of evacuation. But rather than risking a mistake, I evacuated voluntarily, non-reimbursible evacuation fears. All but three families out of 70 evacuated.

The body scan, I'm glad somebody brought that up. I tried to get my children scanned with the body scan. At first they said no, it's only for Middletown. Then they said yes, it's for Goldsboro. Where do you live? I live in Valley Creek West (phonetic). I'm sorry, you're out of limit. What do you mean? Well, we have to take it down to two and a half, three miles. I'm not sure what it was. So I was denied a body scan.

If you want to go over and do some politicking with a person, they said maybe I can sneak you in, which I never did because I just wouldn't feel good in my conscience. Anyway, I'm emotional about this. You just have to understand my nature. And I really don't apologize for this.

But I'm really different than I was before March 28. How am I different? I don't know. When you go through an experience that really touches you personally, you're different. When I look at those towers, I'm different. I want to tear them down. I hate them with a passion, and that's a difference

I never felt before the accident. They remind me of the pyramids of Egypt where so many slaves died building them, and I know they will be the cause of many deaths that's going to be substantiated ten, twenty, thirty, forty years from now. That's my difference.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

Now my job is different. I'm an educator. I'm a football coach. I really do not have the same intensity for those professions now, because as I point objective, the objective of what is happening to our environment and what we were subjected to from Three Mile Island did not even compare with a winning football team being, say, number one in the state. I would rather have all that past if we could shut down Three Mile Island and all nuclear power in the Pennsylvania area.

My home is different. I liked landscaping and gardening. That doesn't have the same feeling for me now because I wonder -- plutonium in there. As soon as you mention that, it's a hush hush word. What's in the environment? Kids playing in the creek. Is that the same? What's in there? Cutting the grass, taking care of the home is really not the same for me. The value of my home I haven't even talked about; but I checked the York County Recorder of Deeds for April and May, the transactions have dropped 50 percent. And that's a matter of fact of record which you can check out carefully.

My wife and I argue a lot because she can't understand, and we're different as to why I have the intensity and the involvement in this. And so, as a result, it's a constant family fight. Friends look at me different. Why don't you just cut the grass, go to work, watch TV, coach football? Forget all that. You know that you're not going to have any impact. You're one small individual. Met Ed is a big somebody. You're not going to make any difference.

I have taken a lot of harassment from people I never thought I would.

The way I view government is slightly different. I'm just being honest. I really have to re-evaluate my thinking on the democratic process. But that's not the issue here.

But, however, I'm searching for truth and justice, and I didn't think this speech would be appropos so I just scratched some things down as I was listening to the first couple testimonies.

What are my motivations? Why am I here? This Dr. Robert Jung expressed it well. You know his parents were killed in Germany in the Holocaust, and he related this to me when I had to appear on a show with him on Friday. And at that time in '33 they all knew that Hitler was going to be bad, but they were afraid to stand up and they had some belief that everything was going to work out. It didn't. Six million

Jews died. His parents died. And he explained to a group Monday night, he said this is how I feel about nuclear power. He said it's the same road. He said you almost had a Holocaust in Pennsylvania. You almost lost the entire state. So I must go out and preach and fight. Never again will I let something pass before me that I don't stand up and speak for it. And he summarized it for me. He said that's basically how I feel. Honestly, I feel it's survival. I'm really fighting for the unborn.

And I saw a cartoon of the planet earth, and it had stamped on it "No Deposit, No Return, a Throw Away Planet". And I think nuclear power and the contamination with it can read in that direction. I think for the first time -- I used to teach science and chemistry. We now have a technology that can destroy us. And that's what is scary. I think that's why for the first time, and I don't know when that's going to be, we're going to turn our back on nuclear power. And I think people are going to rise up and shut down every nuclear reactor in the United States of America. I just know they will.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. MINNICH: I'm sorry. I really have to get my philosophy. My concern is the accident itself, and I heard the Superintendent for West Shore testify March 28 and 29 I'm not going to go through. I know my children were exposed. I

don't care what anybody says. That's a gut feeling I have. Nobody can find out what Met Ed released on those three days. Gerusky made a slip of the tongue, and we're trying to check it out. On the first day he gave us ten roentgens -- ten roentgens, and the wind was blowing west. At seven, 7:30 in the morning my son at the bus stop. I don't think it's a matter of were we exposed. It's a matter of how much were we exposed to. I defy anybody in this commission to find out what was released on the 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st. Only Met Ed knows. They'll actually point the finger at the Pennsylvania Senate and the House of Representatives, because last year they turned down a bill for \$300,000 that would have given us monitoring equipment that we would have known better.

I know hindsight is better than foresight, but Gerusky told us we had four docimeters and that's all we had. Everything else was relied on Met Ed's instrumentation. And I hate to tell you, but I just can't trust one word that they say and I think the facts speak for themselves.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. MINNICH: Califano stated that we're going to have one cancer death as a result of this. I think you can multiply that times 100. I think people are going to get cancer because of this. I would like to recommend somehow that the state and federal government institute the health plan I read about in the papers now. It just isn't enough. Every

family in that 30-, 40-mile radius has to be monitored for 40 years with yearly checkups for any signs of cancer. And they should be treated free of charge. And I look at the amount of money appropriated for a health plan by the state. To me that's a drop in the bucket. When I look at just the similarities of the \$4.5 million to Egypt and the peace settlement there and who knows what's going to go to the Panama Canal, and here we the people picked up radiation have not even asked them for \$1 million appropriated to view something for 40 years. It doesn't make sense. It's illogical. I think in this whole nuclear juggernaut, the people in a five-, ten-, fifteen-mile radius, the people are expendable.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. MINNICH: But, however, the monitoring, I speak with the reference that this plant will never open again. I don't mean that. I don't think it should ever and will ever open again. I just mean monitoring for what might happen, for example, with the water. And I mentioned this on the TV show in New York, and Bill Fox, the gentleman called me a liar. He said you can't tell me on Friday they dumped highly contagious radioactive stuff in the water. I said yes, they did, Bill. Why would I lie to you?

Okay. Let me read this through. I have to make out the highpoints.

Number one, the dumping in the water, gentlemen.

Let me tell you something about tridium, and I just read something today. Do you know that tridium can diffuse through metal? So it's probably leaking in our river. What scares me, that goes right to your genes and causes genetic mutations. That's a fact. It goes to your bones and hotspots, cancer causing. So I'm not going to go over what's in the contaminated water. But hopefully we won't let them dump that in the water. We'll do super-monitoring of our environment.

Evacuation. Now I heard the gentleman here mention about, well, you're talking about no nuclear energy, why evacuation? My son, thank God I picked him up from Fishing Creek because they'd ship him off to Dillsburg, and with the meltdown I may never have seen him again. I think that's illogical to have that type -- so we blew the evacuation. You blew it, I blew it, as an educator. We all blew it. I think we all have to say we blew it and admit that first. I think that's the manly thing to do. But there's still a danger. That's not in cold shutdown yet. It's in a new mode we do not know about yet.

Number two, Civil Defense. We know that there's a missile parked for that. If we ever go into a war, we'd better know how to evacuate because I think that may be a possibility. Terrorism, which we don't think about. You know, before the accident it's easy when you talk to people how to take over the control towers in five easy steps. Bam,

you could take over Met Ed in five easy steps. How it is now, I don't know. We know that the security is not what it should be.

I had Dr. Robert Jung. He wanted to see Met Ed. Early Monday morning at 1:00 we looked at the towers. He said, you know, Mickey, in Germany this would never happen. I said what do you mean? He said right now we would have been stopped three times. We would have been searched, and then they'd make sure what are you doing here, etc. I just think we are much too lax, and we don't worry about terrorism.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We are one or two witnesses behind now.

MR. MINNICH: Okay.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you.

(At this point the audience applauded the witness.)

MR. MINNICH: May I just say one thing. This is one thing that really disturbs me, and I'll say it. I know you're giving me negative vibrations, but I'll say it before the questions. Metropolitan Edison and everybody else had days and months to state their case. So far, gentlemen, I've had 20 minutes, and I think that's unfair.

(At this point the audience applauded the witness.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, sir. Our next witness is Mrs. Donna Umholtz.

Any questions?

BY REPRESENTATIVE GEESEY:

Q Just one comment, Mickey. The House did pass the bill providing for the funding of --

A That's this year.

Q No, we did it last year. The House passed it last session. It died in the Senate Appropriations. I just wanted to square that away. We have been trying.

REPRESENTATIVE COHEN: I'd just like to commend you on the forcefulness of your testimony, and I think it's very good that this Committee and other committees that are investigating be allowed to see the strength and the depth of their convictions. And I very much commend you on your testimony. I would rather you be given much more time to continue.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, sir. Mrs. Donna Umholtz.

MRS. UMHOLTZ: I am Donna Umholtz. I'm a resident of Newberry Township and a member of the Newberry Township Three Mile Island Steering Committee. I am here to give testimony on my experiences of the aftermath of the Three Mile Island accident.

When my family and I were forced by fear from our home, it was the thoughts of my husband and I never to return again. If it had not been that we had an obligation to my parents, who live on the same property, and who are up in years,

my husband and I would not have returned to the area at all. Now that we have returned, we have no desire to continue living here. We have no desire to plan our future, as we are not sure we have one.

Each time I hear aircraft passing overhead, I listen carefully to determine if it's a helicopter. I'm slightly relieved when it isn't. For when it is a helicopter, my first thought is what garbage have they released from that nuclear monster now that they're out there monitoring.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MRS. UMHOLTZ: I feel as if I am caught and trapped in some kind of biological warfare. My security has been totally deflated. At this very moment, my luggage is packed and in the trunk of my automobile. That's how secure I feel in my own home.

When I took my stand against nuclear power, I'm interrogated by the State Police. I wasn't surprised by the questioning, but I did feel it was completely ~~assumed~~ to be questioned because I exercised my American rights. And my position as a receptionist in the township office, I am in constant contact with the public. I am aware of numerous people already searching for new homes in the event that TMI opens as a nuclear power facility. I am aware of another family living on the Kline Road. They left when the accident occurred. To this day they have not returned. They do not

feel safe. I am aware of people who are totally torn apart because their children were out Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, March 28th to the 30th. These people are frantic. They have no idea what future their children will have, no idea what health problems they will encounter.

I am aware of a family that when the fire sirens go off, their children stand screaming in fear.

I received phone calls at the township office when those sirens rang, people wondering what happened. Did something happen at Three Mile Island, or are we supposed to stay indoors? When the wind blows causing the steam from the cooling towers to change position or change form, I again receive phone calls. What's going on down there? What are they releasing? I want to know, I'm concerned. Many people are doing more worrying these days, and most encouraging is the fact that Three Mile Island has awakened millions more people to the realization that nuclear power generation is unsafe.

Some state and federal officials talk as if we are in bondage to nuclear power. This is not true. And we, the everyday people, the ordinary citizen, we will make a change. And we will see nuclear power phased out.

I'm angry, and I'm annoyed with the Governor of Pennsylvania and the President of the United States for simply trying to appease the people by forming task forces and holding hearings when, in reality, they have careless attitudes and

total disregard for human rights.

If I do have any allotted time, I would like to yield that to Mickey Minnich if that can be done.

BY CHAIRMAN WRIGHT:

Q You said something to the effect that you were interrogated by the State Police. Will you elaborate on that, please? What was the occasion? What did they ask you?

A To this day we do not know why I was questioned.

Q When did this happen?

A Approximately May 10th. Plainclothes policemen entered the township building. I did not know he was a State Trooper at the time. His first question to me was what did I know about the anti-nuclear group that has formed in the area. I, of course, corrected him saying that I was a member of that committee and we were not advertising as an anti-nuclear group. We were telling people that we are concerned citizens.

At that point he questioned me about June 3rd, what did I do about it, so on and so forth, and just various things of that order, more or less what activities the people were going to participate in.

Q You said he did not identify himself as a State Policeman?

A Not at first.

Q Did he identify himself at all?

A After the first or second question, he did show his credentials.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Any other questions?
Representative Cohen.

BY REPRESENTATIVE COHEN:

Q Have any other members of your group been interrogated by the State Police?

A Not to my knowledge.

BY CHAIRMAN WRIGHT:

Q Do you think this was in your role as a private citizen or as a township official?

A I beg your pardon?

Q Were you questioned in your role as a private citizen or a township official?

A I would say as a private citizen being as he asked for my name, address and phone number, which I did give to him. I have nothing to hide.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Itkin.

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q What was your philosophy relative to nuclear power?

A I have always been anti-nuclear. Now I have never come out and searched out other people who felt the same way I did, although I was aware of groups such as Three Mile Island Alert, although I have always been against it.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Any other questions?

At this point I would like to thank you, and I would like to extend an apology to the people here. We are sort of running a tight ship; and for those of you who may be cut short, we would be more than happy to receive any written comments you would like to give to us at the end of the night or send to us in the mail, and it will be made part of the record.

Thank you, Mrs. Umholtz.

Larry Phillips.

MR. PHILLIPS: Representative Geesey and members of the Committee, we appreciate the opportunity of your being here, and I thank you for the few moments to express my views.

I was told by my wife to pre-state my position here. She said that she really should be doing this, but she felt that the tension and so forth would not allow her to continue, so I am filling in. And I am simply going to tell you what happened to us.

Our problem began Wednesday evening on the 28th of March. I was away all day working, returned in the evening, had some supper and was told that we should go away for the night. Now while I had heard some news, I really didn't pay much attention to it. But Virginia and the children were very much concerned. We left about 11:00 and went to Chambersburg, Virginia; Cheryl, my daughter; and my two grandchildren. We came back home on Thursday, and everything seemed quite normal.

We did have a meeting at our office, a business meeting the next morning, and I went. Friday morning was a very uncertain day. Virginia called me at the meeting about 10:00 and was very concerned and upset. We, of course, were getting conflicting reports on the news from all the media, the local police and the fire companies were contacting personally the people in Newberry Township telling them to be ready to evacuate. She contacted me again, and we decided to go to Pine Grove. We stayed, Virginia, Cheryl, the boys and myself, with relatives of a neighbor; and there were actually 12 of us in that home. It was, of course, rather inconvenient and very much an imposition. The news continued to be very indefinite, conflicting, and so forth.

We did return on Sunday under considerable pressure. You could take a choice of what you wanted to hear, good, bad or indifferent. It was all coming at you, conflicting reports, explosions, hydrogen bubble. We were a little concerned, and some harsh words were said both ways. Virginia and I were the only two to come back. The children were told to stay away, which they did. I took Virginia with me on Monday, since I had an appointment in Hanover area, and I wanted to get on with some work. But I did take Virginia with me because I didn't want her at home. We stayed away until Thursday. We were in Hanover, York, Lancaster and wound up in the Ephrata area. I worked somewhat, and Virginia would stay in a motel

watching news and what have you.

We returned home Thursday evening. We did stick kind of close to home, because things were still uncertain. Cheryl and the boys arrived home the following Thursday. Virginia had been very badly depressed and concerned since, usually unable to get the TMI situation off her mind. She's been nervous, wakes up in a cold sweat, dreams about the situation. I know that mine and other of our neighbors, sex association has been somewhat disturbed.

Virginia had an appointment with our doctor last Friday. His conclusion: nerves, tension, pressure. His recommendation: try to get away for a while. Don't stop smoking. Take valium. Some of our neighbors are taking phénobarbs or whatever.

We are very much concerned about our health, long range, our children and grandchildren health, our property values. And these are not settling thoughts for people at age 60. These concerns are still continuing after 60 days. Constant news, uncertainty of condition, conflicting reports, revelations of known risk for the public, faulty and failing equipment that is known by NRC and Met Ed, the rip-off king. Met Ed is keeping this tension alive. They say the sky is falling in Harrisburg. Nobody did. The consumer should pay. With constant rising of costs, we do not need callous unconcern, poorly run corporation keeping these things alive.

Again, Met Ed says that the cash flow -- they have a cash flow problem, and yet they want -- and they want loan ability. Yet they hire a PR firm that, no doubt, costs a lot of dough, and we're going to pay. They give a \$15 million dividend to their stockholders, a no-risk stockholding situation. And we're going to pay for that, too? They also got a \$13 million refund, and I haven't seen any come to us yet. In addition to that, our good Governor has proposed Bloom, a pro-nuclear pro-utility man for the PUC who makes the outlandish statement that the waste problem is solved. No reasonable man that I have heard can make that statement. Could you?

Our PUC effort involves politicians, state and federal, NRC and, finally, your commission. We are afraid of the results that may follow due to big money. NRC, appointed by the President, mixed laxity and regulation and enforcement of regulation. Why? Are they paid off? Public interests is declining due to the time and effort and frustration. As time drags on, we lose. We can't compete. You must help us. What can we do? We are against sloppy, unconcerned callous costly corporate nukes who have no disposal program and who operate an obsolete plant. It is exemplified PP & L looks for problems now in the building that they're going through. Our good firm, Met Ed, only looks for more dollars to take care of their problems. They say they save us money. I don't know how.

We must look at good, honest possible change. What about that solar complex in California that our good government won't look at? This is coal country. I think we should do something with coal. I think we should revoke licenses of uncooperative corporate dollar-minded corporations.

I don't think we need to talk too much. We need to get going, now and long range, medical checkups. Twenty years down the road, the Utah problem is still not generally known. Reimbursement costs for those effected by Met Ed's rip-off changed in life and uncertainty caused by unconcerned and unfeeling corporate giants rush for dollars. After all, private corporations raise their losses, or they don't get results. The monolithic monopolies simply say they need more money.

This could be an opportunity to come back to sanity, control inflation, and energy costs, control costs of operation. I feel this is all one bag. All of this stuff goes into one. Maybe with the help of you people, we can get some results.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, sir.

Mrs. Linda Dominoski, D-O-M-I-N-O-S-K-I.

And you live in Eppers (phonetic)?

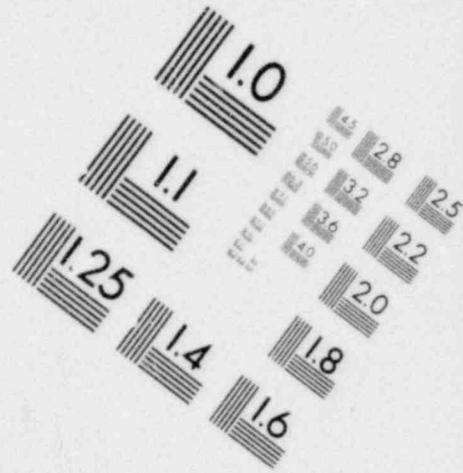
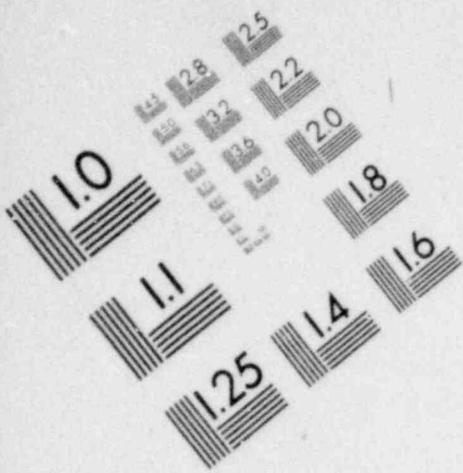
MRS. DOMINOSKI: Yes, I do.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Where is that in relationship to --

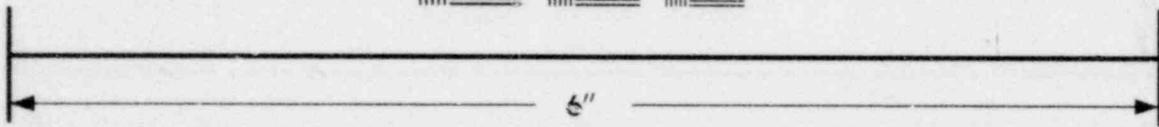
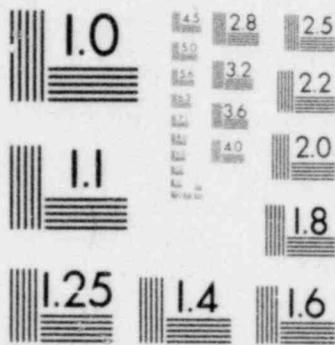
MRS. DOMINOSKI: It's approximately -- I have that in here.

I am Linda Dominoski, a resident of Newberry Township, living approximately one and a half to two miles from TMI. I am able to see the stacks from my home.

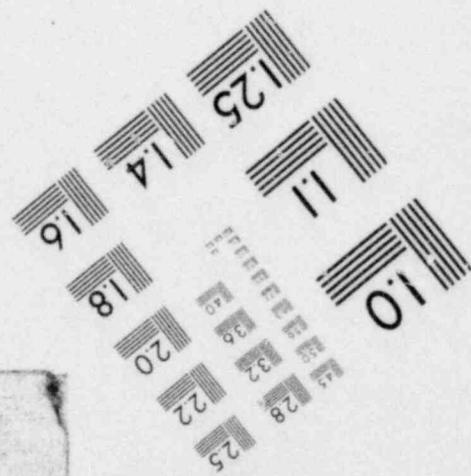
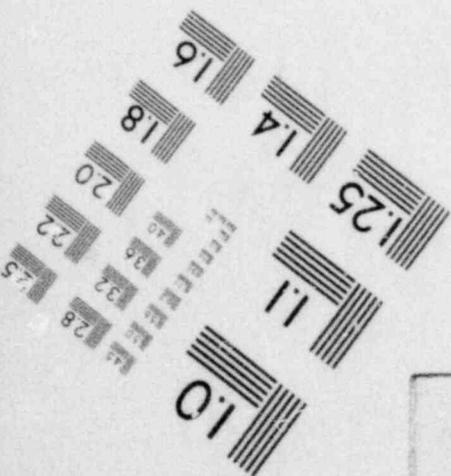
On March 28th and 29th I did not think too much of what was happening. At that time I still had faith that they knew what they were doing, but on March 30th I was rudely awakened. I thought I knew what fear was, but I was wrong. Never have I known the fear that I knew that day and the days that followed the accident. Now it is something I live with daily. Fear that will not go away no matter how hard I try to forget. I have a nine-month old baby girl and an eight year old son. Can someone please guarantee me that they are going to be all right? Are they going to develop cancer or leukemia as young adults? And how about my future grandchildren? Will they be affected by this irresponsible atrocity? I have had nightmares about the accident. I thought with a little time it would cease, but it has been two months and, if anything, they are getting worse. My eight year old son has even asked me if he's going to get cancer. What honest answer do I give him? Every time a siren goes off or there's a loud noise outside, my stomach gets tied up in knots. The first thing that goes through my mind is that something else went wrong over there. It's not fair that we must live this way. It's like one continuous nightmare. I pray some day it will stop in my family and I can be happy again and live a normal life.



**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART



Califano said we would not see any additional cancer deaths, but now he's saying probably one or two. Some scientists feel this could be a lot higher, with the same number of non-fatal cancers, not to mention birth defects. This may not seem like high figures, but no one living in the effected area wants to be any part of these statistics. I surely don't want any member of my family to become one of those statistics, and no one can guarantee me that they won't be. The government officials are elected to represent the peoples' best interest. They aren't the Almighty. Met Ed is a utility to serve the public, not destroy it. They say there is not enough knowledge on the effects of low level radiation. This has never happened before, so they can't really say what the long range health effects will be. What about the previous study by Mancusco, Milham, Steward, Kneale on the Hanford workers or the studies by Dr. John Goffman, one of our nuclear pioneers? It is obvious to me that the government did a good job covering up the findings or calling them unreliable studies. I say they better wake up and take another look.

In Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania State Health Department was allocated \$6 million for studies on the health effects of TMI. That's fine, but what about a long-term health coverage plan for the people in this area? If the government can spend billions of dollars on developing nuclear

energy, they surely should come up with a plan for annual checkups for the people that the nuclear industry has effected.

I also think it was criminal for them to compare the doses of radiation that we received to that of an x-ray. Dr. George Wald, a Nobel Prize winner said, and I quote, "it is perfectly insane to compare the two. An x-ray does not stay on for hours or days. This is accumulative amount we're talking about." I also just finished reading a report by the Ad Hoc Population Dose Assessment Group, compliments of Mr. Verusky. They say the most we received was 83 millirems. These are calculations rather than actual monitored doses. I quote Dr. Karl Z. Morgan, former head of the health physics at Oak Ridge National Laboratory: "the numbers recorded were very small compared to what I would call adequate. The TLD's if they are used properly are encased in a capsule such that no beta radiation would enter into the meter itself. Statements of Met Ed officials, NRC and from political sources have indicated the dose would be primarily to noble gases which pass over the area, but noble gases give off only beta radiation and the meters do not register beta radiation." Noble gases have a very short half life; therefore, they were gone before any true monitoring could be done. The damage is done, and there is no way of registering those amounts. So again, we cannot even be sure of the reports being put out.

We have been under undue stress and by the looks of

things it's far from over for us. They still have not achieved a true shutdown. We have the problem of hundreds of thousands of gallons of highly contaminated water sitting over there that Met Ed wants to dump in our river. This is criminal. It only goes to show me further the incompetence of Met Ed. Met Ed bigshots don't have to live around here, and you can tell that they don't drink the water. Stello (phonetic) said on May 7th in the morning paper there is the potential of more uncontrolled releases when cleanup starts, but not to worry because they expect them to be within the safe allowable limits. I'm sick and tired of hearing about so-called safe allowable limits. Dr. Goffman in his book called these limits a hoax. Dr. Alice Steward said the standards are a result of educated guesswork based on knowledge of the 1945 bombing of Hiroshima. So much knowledge is available, why won't the government listen? Radiation is unsafe at any level. The government has ignored this or covered it up and not informed the people. To me, this is unforgivable negligence.

Now more studies are to be done, and we're to be the guinea pigs. When will it all end?

Finally we must deal with Met Ed stating they are planning to open the number one reactor in August. That would be the final straw. They cannot be allowed to ever re-open that plant as a nuclear facility. We have been through enough. We cannot take any more. Many people are leaving in the event

the plant does re-open, my family included. This is our home, but our families, our health and well-being come first. We cannot sit back and forget this happened to us. We can never feel safe again if they insist on re-opening that radiation-spitting monster sitting in our back yard.

I end with this, the public has not been told the true story. We have been lied to and told of the dangers of nuclear power. The government has put politics and big business before the health and safety of its people. People are losing more and more faith in their government officials. Why? Because the federal and local government has forgotten the most important element of all of human nature, compassion for its people.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Cohen.

BY REPRESENTATIVE COHEN:

Q Would you give us that source again? In the statement you quoted on beta rays that it did not measure beta rays. Beta rays are the most important.

A That's Karl Z. Morgan, former head of the health physics at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

One more thing that I don't have in my little speech. I ask you gentlemen if you had any authority at all, that they're saying if the facts -- we're not making any promises or anything on our stand on nuclear power until all the facts

are in. Well, I ask you gentlemen, if you have the authority, not to let that plant open in August until all the facts are in.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Our next witness is William Pepper, York Haven, PA.

MR. PEPPER: Good evening. I am going to try -- representative, Representative Geesey, members of the House, I am going to try not to bore you with a travelogue, and I'm going to try not to give testimony on the accident that happened at Three Mile Island. I was not in the control room. I am not a nuclear engineer. I don't think I can give you much factual information on that. Instead, what I think may help you more is I'm going to try and give you some information on an accident that happened in Poughkeepsie, New York.

The accident in Poughkeepsie, which is a small town on the Hudson River, did not make the 11:00 news. Cronkite didn't broadcast it, but it was a real accident and I'll try to describe it for you.

Wednesday, March 28, my wife got the information of the accident. We pulled the kids from school at noon, and we left, for relatives up the Hudson River in Poughkeepsie. On Thursday we spent most of the day trying to answer a lot of questions with very little information on what we were doing 250 miles away. Friday we began to hear about the gas bubble. We gassed up the car, made a few calculations, talked it over, didn't think it was too much of a problem and kept an ear open.

Saturday, more gas bubble. Now talk of a hydrogen explosion, some consideration of a meltdown. Now we listened for wind direction and velocity. Wind speed divided into 250 miles equals time for gas to get from Harrisburg to Poughkeepsie, New York if it's going in the right direction. Saturday night I spent on what I call radio watch. I spent all night up with one ear to the radio. Sunday, more of the same, a little more talk about meltdown, now talking about the information we're all familiar with by this time, the vast numbers of high the size of Pennsylvania. Sunday night was another radio watch. Now comes Monday, the accident.

Monday morning at 6:30 I had to take my wife into the emergency room at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie suffering from chest pain and a numbness to her right arm. Blood pressure turned out to be high, pulse rate turned out to be high. Thank God the EKG was negative. The prescription was sedation. The diagnosis was symptoms of heart problems produced by trauma.

The cure, as prescribed by the doctor up there, was rest.

It is now the 6th of June. Fortunately, my wife is somewhat better. She only wakes up two times a week now in a cold sweat. She was waking up every night. That's the accident I want to report to you, because it was a real one; and, in addition to that information, I have the Vassar Brothers

Hospital bills to prove it.

I suggest to you, gentlemen, that that is perhaps not even visible on the surface, but I suggest to you that that's a cost of nuclear electricity generation that is perhaps even more expensive than the expensive bills we get monthly from the utility.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. PEPPER: In my judgment and based on recent testimony, the NRC advocated its responsibility to the American people as they testified themselves before the Chemistry Commission this week. I think, members of the Pennsylvania Legislature, that the ball is in your court. I think if the federal government fails to protect the health of its citizens, and it has clearly done that through its inability to make the required safety changes which it had regulated in 1975 on a plant that was not finished until 1978, if they had advocated their responsibility, I suggest you members of the Legislature must take your responsibility and protect the citizens of Pennsylvania. I think both you and I have been misled, misinformed and, perhaps, out and out lied to. I think you have to do for us what we, as citizens, cannot do for ourselves. I think you have to pass legislation to protect our health, to protect our homes and to protect our mental well-being.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, sir.

Michael Kauffman, Fire Chief, Newberrytown Fire Company. Michael Kauffman?

We'll mark him as not appearing.

Jane Lee of Etters.

MS. LEE: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the Board, I want to thank you for your patience and your comments. And I would like to direct my comments into two areas that were specified in the advertisement, and that was Health and Evacuation.

Two and a half years ago I had an appointment with Representative Goodlink (phonetic) regarding the evacuation of our community in the event of a nuclear meltdown. Now the reason I sought his advice is because I had explored nuclear energy and, from that, the effects of radiation; and I began to get a picture in my mind as to the limited access that we have to the main arteries coming out of Fairview Township. I was very concerned. I could see panic. I could see cars lined up standing out there quite vulnerable to the effects of radiation.

The purpose of evacuating people from the area around TMI during the nuclear accident, in my opinion, I have some very serious doubt. I have spent a long time on this, and I want to give you my reasons. The Environmental Policy Institute issued a statement on April the 4th, 1979: "that the meteorological factors must be taken into account in

determining where the evacuees from the Three Mile Island area should be sent." This indicates to me that by the time all the weather data is sorted out and it can be determined what direction people should go, it will be too late to do anything.

We don't know, and no one knows, why that nuclear reactor stopped and it's a sudden meltdown. Nobody knows. But had it followed its final conclusions, final course, no one in that audience would be sitting here tonight, including me, talking to you. You wouldn't be here either, Gene. It would be all over for all of us. If a decision was made in the future that we are to have a Civil Defense program, where will the funds come from and who will be responsible for maintaining it? There are many people now who plan to leave the area, and some of them have already left, particularly those with rentals. Although the business community at the present time has been very quiet regarding the TMI as far as getting involved and being outspoken, I'm sure that they are weighing all the ramifications, including the responsibility of who shall pay for the accident.

Many citizens organizations are expressing the fear that business will quietly seek another area to move, and local employees will suddenly discover that the pink slip informing them that the company is moving out of this state. We cannot blame business for this kind of attitude. No business can remain viable for long if its utility rates exceed

the national average. Therefore, we are confronted with some nagging questions. Number one, because evacuation will require weather evaluation before an order can be issued to evacuate, is it possible to implement the immediate and safe evacuation of thousands of people without panic in the event of another meltdown at TMI? I suggest, gentlemen, that it is possible.

If we should lose our tax base because of the economic consequences, can we afford to buy a Civil Defense program with adequate warning systems, ambulance service and communications systems.

And, three, if we can solve the first two questions, where can we send our people in northern York County so that they will be removed from the imminent danger. Also, what provisions would be made for sleeping quarters, food, personal hygiene and medical assistance? In view of this opinion of mine, and perhaps somebody can shoot it down, it seems to me that to even consider re-opening either plant at TMI is a horrendous thought. I can't imagine anybody in this country today who would advocate the opening of those plants after what the people in this area have suffered.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MS. LEE: I will hold my remarks very brief. I have been doing a study since 1977 on farm animals. I have completed studies as far as I could go. It's very small. It's very insignificant, really. But what nature is telling

us in that report which I have sent to all the public officials in Washington, and also to Governor Thornburgh, is that nature is telling us something, and we'd better listen.

I have one final thought for you, gentlemen. Somebody once said that the hottest place in hell is reserved for those who standby and do nothing in the face of danger. I ask you gentlemen when you go back to the Governor to not let number one plant ever re-open. We cannot afford the psychological impact and the damage that is now being done to the citizens in this area. I could give you a long list of what I have encountered, but I don't want to take any more time here. Anybody on this commission who wishes to have a report of what I have, I'm willing to see that you get it providing the state will pay for the copies. I have really spent a lot of money and time and effort on this.

I have one other thing to suggest. This advertisement here, advertisements by the state for censustakers to do some kind of a census on health in the area at \$3.19 an hour. There will be no mileage paid on that. May I suggest, gentlemen, that for \$3.19 an hour you are not going to get a person who is qualified to do any research in the area of health.

Now I know what I'm talking about because I have already done this, and I'm certainly not qualified in the area of health. I want to tell you it's a very poignant

thing for an individual like myself to try to go out and do something that you're not even qualified to do because nobody else was doing it and it was happening, and it's still happening. And I'm talking about the animals. I'm talking about death. I'm talking about animals going down who can't get back up. They lose control of their muscles, their legs, their arms. Their legs are soft. The butcher that I spoke to, they butchered some animals that the veterinarian said will have to be destroyed. He said he never saw bones like that on an animal, ever in his butchering. It's not just cows. It's small animals. It's rabbits and it's ducks and it's geese and it's horses, and it's any kind of farm animal that you can think of. They're all being effected. Now keep in mind that the animals are in the environment all the time. They feed from the environment. They live in the environment. They don't live like you and I do. So it's going to take longer to catch up to us than the animals. The Dr. Goffman stressed this, and I don't care if he's anti-nuclear or not. The man is qualified. He knows what he's talking about. And he said the first place you're going to see the evidence of what is happening or the effects of a nuclear power plant operating is going to be on the animals. There's where you have to look for the impact. Again, I'm not qualified, but I think we need people who are qualified. I would meet food inspectors who are sent out to ask a few questions from a

farmer. You won't find anything from a farmer in ten minutes. These people are shy. They're drawn. I had to return some times as high as three times to get any information from them. We need qualified people who really know what they're looking for, that know the questions to ask. You can't send college students out there who are not qualified and don't know what to ask about animals, because it's a very complex, complicated subject.

That's all I have to say, gentlemen.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Would you kindly provide either myself or Gene with a copy of your study and a copy of that flyer that you have? I did not know about that. And we'll take care of the distribution.

MS. LEE: You can have this right now.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We want the report.

MS. LEE: I'll see that Gene gets a copy.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you. Questions?
Representative Itkin.

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q Miss Lee, a number of speakers, and you're the last one, I thought this would be an appropriate time to raise the question because I'm hearing the same story over and over again, psychological anxieties, concern about the reactivation

of any nuclear power plant, your inherent residents close proximity to Three Mile Island. How far do you live away?

A About three and a half miles.

Q What really concerns me is having all this great psychological concern and having all this fear of nuclear reactors being started up. Why don't you have the same concern that the hundreds of thousands of gallons of highly radioactive water now contained three and a half miles from your house which, conceivable to any scenario which you may wish to believe in terms of reactors. You claim, perhaps, a breach in a container to spill hundreds of thousands of gallons of highly radioactive water into the environment. In view of that particular situation or scenario, why haven't you just gotten up and left? Why are you staying here in view of the --

(At this point the audience booed.)

MS. LEE: May I say that I don't think that we have reached any point of no return yet -- yet. But to suggest that these people should desert their homes --

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q I'm not asking about these people. I'm asking about you. I'm trying to make an assessment, and it's a genuine one.

A All right. Suppose I --

Q And I don't wish you to speak for others. But you're the last one that's making the statement.

A Right.

Q I'm asking for your own personal human reaction because of what you have said.

A We were here first.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q In other words, it's pride that's keeping you here.

A It's what?

Q Pride.

A No. When somebody takes their whole life and invests it into the land and into their homes, surely, sir, you're not suggesting that we desert our environment so that Met Ed can continue to pollute the environment.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q I'm not saying that at all. What I'm saying is if there is an eminent tragedy to my own personal well-being, I certainly would not be a fool if I believed that to be true.

A Do you live in this area?

Q Do I live in this area? I live in Pittsburgh.

A All right.

Q And I live in Harrisburg, too.

A You can't appreciate it.

Q I'm not trying to put myself in your place.

A Where would you suggest all these people go?

Q I'm not suggesting all these people go. I just want to get a feel for the depth of your anxiety in terms of what sacrifices you're willing to make, not other people, in terms of fear and anxiety that you apparently have.

A Let me relate to you my own personal situation. I do not own property in this township where I live. I could have picked up and walked off the day that I found out about the nuclear power plant, which is back in 1975. I could have walked away then, but I did not walk away because of the people that I love. Love, that's what the world's all about. That's what the responsibility is to being helpful to each other. Sisterly and brotherly love for each other. That's the meaning of creation. That's the meaning of our existence, and that's why I personally have not left, because I have people here that I dearly love. I love them more than I love myself. Do you understand that?

Q Well, I understand --

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Cohen.

BY REPRESENTATIVE COHEN:

Q You identified yourself as a concerned citizen. Could you give us some information on your background and what studies you have made?

A I would rather not do that, sir. It's personal. It's not relevant to what we are saying here today. I'm a concerned citizen. No other citizen did that. I don't see

where I should. That's personal.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Any other questions?

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRANDT:

Q Jane Lee?

A Yes.

Q Were you in contact at all with the Farmer Connelly (phonetic) herd?

A Yes, Joe Connelly, Charles Connelly, Kauffman's, Fitzgerald, Dr. Lucht's (phonetic) horse farm, Fisher's, Vance Fisher, Jeremiah Fisher, etc., etc., etc.

Q And are they in your report?

A Yes, they are.

Q And what time frame -- one other question. What time frame did you make this study?

A Beginning early 1977.

Q How long a time did you study this? 'Til present?

A Yes. I had difficulty because early -- when I began this in early 1977, a lot of people were reluctant to open up for the very fact that they were fearful of the economic consequences. And I suspect that what I did will only be the top of the iceberg. There is a great deal submerged yet. People are very reluctant. When I was over in Balmbridge, one of the farmers informed me that he had a wagonload of hay to sell. And when a gentleman called him to find out how much it was and he said okay, fine, where will I pick it up, he said

I live in Baimbridge. How close are you to Three Mile Island?
He said three miles. He said forget it.

Q Is that in your report?

A No, I didn't put it in.

Q Would you relate to the Chairman or to me, through our Chairman, that incident there with the hay in Baimbridge?

A Yes. I have to go back to the gentleman I talked to, but I remember who it was. I can find out for you.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you very much. Let's take a five-minute break.

(The hearing recessed at 9:25 P.M. and reconvened at 9:35 P.M.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Our next witness will be Vance Fisher of Etters.

Mr. Fisher, you have ten minutes, please.

MR. FISHER: Distinguished people of the Committee here, neighbors, some of you I'm sure I know. Mr. Geesey knows. I'm a farmer three miles from Three Mile Island on Valley Road, Route 262. In case someone should wonder why I am there, my family moved there 245 years ago. We have been satisfied there since. Nobody has tried to run us out. We like it here. I have been in 48 states. Some places I wouldn't go back to, but there are other places I could live, and might.

As far as radiation is concerned, I didn't get all

that excited. I stayed home with the cows, which are my business. I raise steers. It might be something to hassle about. I know a little about radiation having commanded an Air Force Unit for four years, a rescue-type unit specializing in radiation-type work.

But that is not why I'm here. As I say, I have been farming. I have been there 30 years, raising cattle for 25. We did rather well at times. We had a few problems. We still have some of those problems. In the last four years we have developed a new problem. The veterinarian has no diagnosis of it. He will show up and request it and take a guess that maybe they need some vitamins, maybe they need some minerals. He will give them a shot of vitamins and minerals, give us a bill, and we can expect in two months they'll be dead. There have been 20 that way right in the immediate neighborhood.

We have tried to get some help from various state agencies. I talked with Dr. Cornfeld (phonetic) at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School -- Veterinary School of New Bolton (phonetic). He has told me if we send him \$500 he will come up and look around, might have some ideas. I thought they'd welcome the opportunity to do some work into it, because the veterinarians we have now are not qualified on the subject, have not been any help. Perhaps we can expect the next couple of generations of veterinarianians not to be too much concerned or qualified.

The problem that I described is paralysis of the rear legs. I have lost five animals for that cause in the last four years. Years back I had as many as 85 head of cattle at one time. I never saw it until four years ago. Neither have my neighbors. There are five of us who are having this problem. We feed entirely home raised grain. We feed salt, usually prescribed traced minerals and home raised grains and home raised hay. These animals being fed entirely on this local diet may be the forerunners of what is to come to our people. We have people in this community, as primitive as it might be to some people, but we have people who do raise gardens. They eat a lot of those vegetables in the summer and keep them over for winter. And whatever is causing this to the cattle, I'm sure in a longer period of time will have the same effect on the people.

I have called the State Bureau of Animal Husbandry, talked with them and couldn't get anywhere. My neighbor had tried a year ago to send a sick animal to the State Hospital at Sommerdale (phonetic). They insisted they could not take it in unless first they were told what the ailment was. That was our problem. Our veterinarian couldn't diagnosis the problem. These prescriptions and attempts to cure usually resulted in failure. So there we have been neglected again.

So I had two on the 7th of May who were down and up occasionally, mostly staggering, rear muscles were not controlled.

So I called the veterinarian, and then almost immediately I thought why bother. This has cost me a considerable amount of money in the last four years with no results. So I was going to call him back and tell him to skip it. I thought it was time I look after it myself having failed to get any help otherwise.

I have studied chemistry four years ago. I am not a chemist. In fact, I am not much of anything. But I do what I believe in, and I try to do it well. So I started some thinking, and I know that the lack of selenium will cause paralysis of the hind legs. Now our state veterinarian has advised me that I cannot diagnosis anything. He's right. But when I see an animal who's legs are paralyzed with no control, I know it's not an actual condition. And I know that selenium has a high affinity of chlorine. And I have a feeling since every town from here to upstate New York purifies their water with chlorine and also attempts to purify its sewage with chlorine, I have a feeling there are tons and tons of chlorine coming down the river. I have called DER, Air Control, Air Quality Control, and asked for an analysis of the air in our neighborhood. We live in a little pocket here. Every time the wind blows it comes up here. If you came from Harrisburg, you came over a rather large hill or mountain. If you go out the west end, as Mr. Geesey does quite often, you go over another hill. If you go down through Newberry, there's

another hill. So we have these winds from the east, sometimes we call them upriver winds, which brings a lot of stuff up from the TMI area.

Now Air Quality Control insisted that I didn't have an air problem at all, I had a water problem. They transferred my call to Water Quality Control. And they assured me that I didn't have any problem at all connected with water. What I had was radiation. I insisted I had no radiation problem, but I was transferred to Radiation Control. The Radiation Control asked me who I was. When I said I was a York County farmer, she said we do not talk with private citizens. So there was an hour or so wasted trying to get calls through, waiting, and nothing has come of it.

First off, I talked to the County Farm Agent who ordinarily we expect if he doesn't have an answer will try to find one. He had no answer and did not indicate whether he was interested in looking for one. Now they will tell us I'm sure we're lacking in minerals. Sure we farmed this land over 200 years. We know that minerals are scarce. But we have six farmers involved here who farm differently. We have limed differently, we have used different fertilizers, we have entirely different program. But at the same time four years ago this ailment has showed up on our farms, has stuck with it. Even if Three Mile Island is closed, it will be with us.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. FISHER: But the point I am trying to make, this I think will be my last appeal, my last attempt locally. If we have to go to one of these nuclear activists groups to see if we can find some help, if we have to go out of state -- in fact, there are a lot of my friends who say you couldn't get an honest assessment of a test of our soil or what have you in this state or even of the livestock. There was an animal taken to New Bolton. The owner has never gotten a report on it. We got some gossip. Well, I heard Dr. Cornfeld from New Bolton telling about this animal they got in this area had a calcium problem. Well, I'm sure they can find a calcium problem. But did they look for any other problems? Did they look for a selenium problem? Selenium has only in the last few months been authorized for use with dairy cattle. So since selenium does join up with chlorine, do we have a problem of a deficiency? We don't know. But it seems strange that it only hits this little pocket right here. Lancaster County generally is more flat, and the winds will distribute further. It will not settle in and be concentrated and come right down with the first ray.

The fellow who owns a farm on the north side of town here bought four bulls 13 months ago. In August, one of them was paralyzed in the hind legs. The veterinarian come down and give him the usual shots. I went down every day for ten days to give him additional shots prescribed by the

veterinarian. December, the second one had paralysis of the hind legs. Same old procedure again. Doctor gave him shots. I gave him shots. He died. Since then the third one has had paralysis of the hind legs, and I'm not sure but I think -- if he's not dead, he should be, because from laying as long as he had, his knees have worn through. And I buried one last week who's knees had worn through. And rather than shoot him, I let him die a gruesome death just to see what would happen. The maggots got to him.

So how long are we going to put up with this? It's a problem. I had my hay sold, surplus hay was supposed to have gone out the last Saturday in March. The man didn't come for it. I still have it. Where am I going to put my new hay? It's problems like that.

Now I have a pasture up there. It's due to the water we've had and all, there's a lot of beautiful clover in there. It looks great. But that pasture hasn't been plowed in the last four years. Next to it I have a field I had wheat about four years ago. I sowed a little seed, was going to plow it the next year and didn't. But anyhow -- no, back up on that. It has been plowed three times in the last four years. Two years ago I had wheat in it and then left it go, and the last year made a little hay off of it. But the cattle got in there yesterday and they'd eat all day long. There was something in there they liked, I don't know. But

there wasn't something there they didn't like. Normally they'll eat six five-gallon buckets of chop. They ate two because of that ugly looking grass they ate. Now is there something toxic in my regular pasture since it hasn't been plowed? I don't know.

The neighbors up here tell me the water running off their roof is killing their lawns where it runs around the rainspout. The cemetery up the road here three-quarters of a mile has a wire fence around it. The grass is dead all the way around that cemetery under that wire fence. Now what the problem is, we have not been able to get anybody apparently interested. I called Mr. Geesey. A man came around, a veterinarian. Unfortunately, I didn't get to talk with him. Prior to that I think on the basis of my calls to the State Bureau of Animal Husbandry, they sent a food inspector out. He probably could have told us there were bumble bees in the sugar barrel, but this steer up here that I mentioned was down at the time. He would not even look over the barnyard fence at that steer. Personally I was afraid he might have to admit he didn't know what a steer looked like. Is that the kind of help we are supposed to be getting?

When we came here, my family and I, they may have had some problems with the Red Man. But I assure you our problems with the White Man are worse.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. FISHER: Now I haven't done any research on this speech or talk. I have lived it. I really haven't made a speech -- I merely prepared a speech. I'm just telling you what I know, what I believe. And I think maybe it's time for me to shut up. And if you have any further questions, I'll try and answer your questions later. Let me know. I'll try and furnish the answers. I know these other farmers have had this problem. I know their problems well. I have worked with them all and helped them out where I could, and we're going to work this thing out together one way or another whether we get help or not.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Foster.

BY REPRESENTATIVE FOSTER:

Q Mr. Fisher, since I am representing the Agriculture Committee on this Select Committee, I'm curious if anyone has checked into the possibility of chemical pollution of any type in this matter.

A Not to our knowledge. That is a question I'm asking.

But there's one thing I forgot to mention here. The veterinarian treated my one cow who was down, but he died. Then I went up, I bought this selenium -- at least I don't think I mentioned it, did I? The white one after four days treatment got up and was perfectly normal. I had two since

that, the smaller ones in the herd, and they have been staggering. Now I should have a separate pasture for them. I don't. So when I have the time, after the bigger ones have eaten, I chase them away and stand there and feed these smaller ones with selenium. Now selenium is now available, and you can buy it. It only costs \$1400 a pound. But if we're going to have to feed selenium, I guess we'll have to feed selenium.

Now first, I'm not advocating this. I know I stuck my neck out on it. I haven't been able to find out what the feeding rates are, but I figure it was time to do something and I'm doing it. I have three animals up there apparently healthy that I'm not sure would be alive without it.

Q Certainly as a layman, I mean I can't -- I can't attribute this to radiation or chemical-type poisoning either, but it doesn't seem to exhibit classical symptoms of any type of radiation poisoning.

A Oh, no, it's not radiation. I don't think it's radiation at all. If it's chlorine -- like I say, I haven't been able to get an analysis what's in the river or what's coming out of the river. But I know chlorine will join up with selenium and make selenium oxi-chloride, which I do not believe is digestible for the cattle.

Q I think whatever your problem is, it should be looked into.

A I think so.

Q But I'm not sure that we can attribute it to the circumstances at hand here.

A We've had it for four years. That was four years after TMI opened up. There must be a common cause of it because, like I said, we have six farmers and they all got it about the same time. We all farm differently. Now you look right next to us we have farmers with more cattle who don't have the problem, but they buy a lot of outside feed. So it would lead me to believe it's based on the local feed. And whether it's something toxic, coming from the towers or whether it's something toxic which is caused by something down there at the towers, I don't know. That is why I am perturbed that I have not been able to get anybody who is willing to give me any kind of analysis. And nobody asked for analysis of what's going on down there.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Dorr.

BY REPRESENTATIVE DORR:

Q Mr. Fisher, you have indicated that you had some hay that was supposed to be picked up about the time of the incident, is that correct?

A Yes, the Saturday following the incident.

Q The fellow never showed up because he was afraid to come for it, is that it?

A That is right.

Q And have you made any effort to market it since then?

A Not particularly, because they always -- I mean other people have. They've told me when buyers find out where it's from, that's it.

Q So that's still a problem in this area, is that right?

A Yes.

Now speaking of this cattle problem, I have had farmers tell me that you'd better keep quiet. I know someone trying to squash it. I know a few who are in the business of selling dairy cattle, and they don't want the word to get around that there is a cattle problem in this area. They are going to great lengths to keep this hushed up. A neighbor told me if you have ideas of selling your farm, you better keep quiet. I heard the real estate's going to be worse than it is now. But I have a feeling that we have a problem. If we go at it right and work together, it can be solved. And I don't want to pass my problems to somebody else.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Fisher.

Steve Sholly, S-H-O-L-L-Y. Steve Sholly?

Barry Leader is from Elizabethtown.

MR. LEADER: Members of the panel, fellow concerned citizens, my name is Barry Leader. I live in Elizabethtown, which is five miles on the other side of TMI. I, like most of you, am a concerned citizen.

I would like to speak this evening on two subjects.

First, the effect of TMI on my personal life, and secondly, my solution to the 70-day old nightmare that has effected our lives in ways we don't even know.

Many of the people in the area surrounding TMI felt many emotions concerned with TMI. Probably the largest majority of people felt helplessness and inability to do anything about the near catastrophe. On this, the 70-day anniversary of the accident at TMI, I would say the extreme mental anguish is the lasting result. I am still coping with anguish to extreme proportions. I would say the anguish could be broken into two categories, the immediate anguish in my family and, after listening to the conflicting reports from the authority in charge, fleeing my home, not knowing if we could ever return. The continued anguish, the frustration of knowing that unless more people become involved, TMI will be in operation August 1st. Continued non-involvement of family, friends, co-workers and neighbors falls into three categories. They think someone else, government, radicals will be sure to make sure that this never happens again. They think that we need nuclear energy at any cost of the dollars or lives or they just don't want to become involved because they're too busy. But busy, I don't know with what.

I have seen friends passively sat at the dinner table and stared at me in disbelief as I expressed my anguish and plans to demonstrate a protest. They have now become more

involved in the fight against nuclear madness than I am. The friends that I have admired and respected before the incident now are frivolous, and their problems are shallow in comparison to the problem that looms over all of us.

The second part of my statement, which is going to be the lifelong goal for the rest of my life. Seventy days after TMI and we all have been educating ourselves on alternate forms of energy. It is time to look further than the family checkbook and problems of keeping up with inflation while big business is running our lives and ruining our environment. The federal government continues to allocate nearly four percent of its energy budget for solar technology. Vendors of oil, gas, coal, nuclear power are represented in Washington by large, well-planned trade associations like American Petroleum Institute, Atomic Industrial Forum and the Edison Electric Institute. These industry lobbies shake the energy market place to serve their interests by influencing legislation, particularly the tax code which stands as a monument to the tower.

In 1977, for example, more than 90 percent of the federal taxes collected from private utilities were returned directly to the utilities to various loopholes established for their benefit in the tax code. The annual federal subsidy to the utilities is three times as large as all the federal benefits received by the solar sources in the last three

decades.

The television program Sixty Minutes aired this weekend highlighted several extremely effective residential solar systems working extremely economically. One system had been in operation since 1941 saving its owners an estimated \$11,000, \$11,000 in fuel costs. It's simple economics. No utility company wants to lose that kind of money to one customer, not to mention \$11,000 savings multiplied by every American household in America. Before the TMI near catastrophe, I didn't know anything about solar energy. I thought it was something to be developed in the future and something that was almost too good to be true having free utilities and heat for my home. I had heard the need for a backup system and the high cost of solar collecting devices. Highlighted on the show was a municipal building that didn't need a backup system and operated under a total cost for one year of \$2. Solar cells now cost one-tenth of what they cost five years ago. Solar technologists can now provide energy for many purposes at no higher costs than the investments of conventional energy sources.

The program concluded solar technology is working well, thank you. It is the political economic systems that need help.

On a recent rating broadcast, the scientists for nuclear energy states the benefits of nuclear energy far out-

weigh the cost of another nuclear accident, which brings to my mind a quote from Alton Wittman: "each generation becomes the custodian rather than the absolute owner of our resources and has the obligation to pass this inheritance on to the future."

Thank you for listening to me.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Ivan.

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q Do you own your own home?

A Yes, I do.

Q Do you have solar heat provided in your home?

A I have been -- I worked in my home for eight years. During that time I have tried to work on it, improve it myself. Last year I hired a contractor at about \$20,000 to work on my home and to make major improvements. Had the accident happened before major improvements to my home, I would have had solar energy included in every aspect of the remodeling. I have passive solar energy included in the home now. And to answer your earlier question, after working on a home for eight years, after having a job that is not one that you can walk out and just get, I cannot pick up and move from this area.

Q Were you aware that the government's energy council had \$400 grants to the persons who wanted to make use of solar energy in their buildings or in their homes?

A I wasn't aware that there were grants available. Recently a man tried buying solar collectors, and at that time was told by the first solar representative selling it to him that it was too expensive for his home because of technologies constantly being developed, and that was two years ago. I don't feel that that is near the situation.

Q I'm trying to assess whether or not you personally were aware of the fact that Pennsylvania's Governor's Energy Council had -- I believe it was 2500 \$400 grants to give out in Pennsylvania for those individuals who wished to go solar.

A As I stated in my statement, I did not know very much about solar energy. I have made it my responsibility to learn quickly, because it's the future of America. And if I do any more remodeling, it will certainly involve -- it will be the sole purpose to incorporate solar energy in my home.

REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: The next witness is J. Earle Pfoutz, P-F-O-U-T-Z, Jr., Millersville.

MR. PFOUTZ: Mr. Chairman, Honorable Congressmen, Committeemen and neighbors, I am not much of a speaker. In fact, it might be difficult for you to understand some of the things I'm trying to say. So I ask the Chairman if I could have permission to help to make my speech by bringing in a few illustrations.

I am not a protestant. I am a person who lives in

this community most of my life. And it wasn't until the Three Mile Island accident that I got involved in demonstrating in this way. It has made a great division in my home. My wife and her people, they say nothing to it. They've been brainwashed by the press, by the public relations men of the utilities.

When time came to leave my home when we realized the danger, it took me from Wednesday evening until Saturday night to convince her. It wasn't until I was watching a program of B. J. and the Bear on the local television when across the screen they said everything was normal. My brother, who was in Florida at the time, watching the same program, was telling me how they were saying how dangerous it was at Three Mile Island. From there, we started to pack our things and leave. We packed food, clothing, tools which would be necessary for survival; and last, but not least, we did the things that the office of Civil Defense said would have to be done in case of a major catastrophe, and that was load our guns and ammunition.

We started out. We went to a friend's home up near Bradford County. We were welcome. We had to take our dogs with us. Our dogs was not welcome. We got to be that we were at each other's throat because we had some dogs. Now how in the world are we going to move millions of cattle, thousands - I should say millions of chickens when the office of Civil

Defense is going to say move out? We aren't going to do it. But, gentlemen, what are we going to do with it. We have problems.

Now to start off with, we are against nuclear energy. Everybody could conserve, and we would not have to have nuclear plants at all if we just shut down one of every thirteen lights in the house.

That raises a question. Is nuclear power the Tower of Babel? Do you realize, ladies and gentlemen, our neighbors are talking in mixed-up tongues? They don't know what they're talking about. They think one's crazy, they think I'm crazy. It's really serious. How are we going to live in a world where we can't enlighten the neighbors? As a reporter from one of the newspapers in Harrisburg said, wake up your neighbor before it's too late for him to wake up.

On March 28th we had first signs of the death of Adam. Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to see all nuclear power destroyed or neutralized. At least we should not have a bomb and we should not have nuclear power plants anyplace in the world.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. PFOUTZ: Three Mile Island is a Holocaust in '79. It was directed by the NRC. It was produced by the GPU.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. PFOUTZ: The next question I raise is the Price Anderson Act. Is the Price Anderson Act a license to kill? That is the first thing in our mind. Remember, they will only give you ten percent of your value. Today, it's TMI. And, ladies and gentlemen, tomorrow we may die, and especially you people who is only three-quarters of a mile from TMI. You people in Goldsboro, I wouldn't want to stay here. And let me say that our Fifth Amendment and the Fifth Commandment, Thou shalt not kill. Ever think of it, ladies and gentlemen? And who has given them license to kill except the Price Anderson Act. And for God's sake and our fate, stop nuclear power.

Now the next question that comes to my mind, ladies and gentlemen, is when? Us? And the U. S. will answer not only for you and me but for all of us. The United States.

Now there's another question. We have people that's been talking about what will happen to future generations. You can go to the store and buy jeans for \$9.95, but see what the price is from the NRC. What price? This is the price, ladies and gentlemen: radiation, mutations. Who is responsible? And, gentlemen, this is going to be your job in this Committee, to determine who is responsible for future generations.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. PFOUTZ: May I say one more thing. I happen to support the crippled children's hospitals and the institutes,

and I feel if we should not permit a thing like more deformities to be born over the next few generations while we are spending millions and millions of dollars.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, but something is going on up there. We're going to say attention PP & L, cancer is hell. And if you ever suffer from it, you know what I mean. I'm just -- if you think you're safe over there in the Capitol when you're only 15 miles over the Holocaust, guess again. And again I say deliver us from nuclear waste forever. Amen.

Now to add one more thing. We have been talking about the nuclear plant opening here in early August. They have a reactor the best brains in the world do not know how to stop. It had 100 tons of uranium in it. Will we have another 100 tons of uranium, and in the depository where they keep the fuel they have another 100 tons. This is a total equivalent to 6,000 bombs the size they dropped on Japan.

Thank you.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you. Todd Keefer.

MR. KEEFER: My name is Todd Keefer. I live seven miles away from the plant in Conewaga Township, York County.

I'd like to start out a little by explaining my own personal situation and a few things that happened to me. On the day of the accident, March 28, I went to work in the morning, heard about it during the day, came home from work

about 4:00. All I had been hearing all day from what Met Ed had been putting out, the lies that Met Ed had been putting out to the people of this area. Based on that information and out of my own curiosity and my own need to know exactly what was going on, about 4:00 that day I got home from work, I loaded my wife and my year and a half old son in the car, and we drove to Goldsboro, right here. I have since learned at about that same time of day, sometime around that time of day, I don't know if we were here at the time or not, but there was an additional release of radiation. Where is the responsibility? Don't they owe us the truth? I mean that's my point. I heard someone the other day at one of these hearings say something about we can't tell people what they don't understand. People are a lot better educated today than they used to be. People understand a lot more than I think they're often given credit for, and I think the people have a right to know the truth, exactly what was happening, the same as we have a right to know now whether that containment building sitting out there in the river is still leaking gamma rays outside its four-foot concrete walls. We know the radiation inside is still lethal. I haven't heard a thing on this since. At one time we got the reports, yes, we are leaking gamma rays through the walls of the containment. What's happening out there today? The information has stopped. Harold Denton's gone. Everything is supposedly back to normal.

On that evening I still wanted more information and wanted to get somehow closer to the truth. I called Met Ed in New York. They said we can't answer your questions. You have to call Met Ed in Reading. So I called Met Ed in Reading the night of the accident, March 28. What I got when I called Met Ed in Reading was this up front first line of defense -- no, there has been no release of radiation. Everything is under control. There is nothing to worry about. Lies. So I brought up the issue I heard a report on the news that radiation inside the containment was 1,000 times normal, and this is put out by NRC. I asked the lady on the phone, I said what about the report I heard that radiation inside the containment is 1,000 times normal. What's going on there? She said that is not true. I said you mean to tell me that I can infer from what you just told me that Metropolitan Edison Company is calling the Nuclear Regulatory Commission liars? She said let me put somebody else on the phone.

I talked with a gentleman after that. I asked him all kinds of questions. I was surprised at that point how much information I did get from him. He admitted to me that there was a possibility of things such as strontium 90, cesium 137, so forth, heavy radioactive products in containment where they shouldn't be, and at least I got some information and some satisfaction at that point.

Thursday was a fairly uneventful day as far as I was

concerned. Not really, but Friday I was at a meeting up in Hershey having to do with a municipal authority association meeting in Hershey. There were rumors flying around there that this whole thing about information and so forth and -- good information to depend on. Nobody knew what was happening except after the luncheon an announcement was made that the meeting was being -- the rest of the activities for the day were being cancelled and, at the same time, there were rumors flying around that Harrisburg was being evacuated. Nobody knew what was going on. There was a lot of confusion. Now since this whole thing is -- since Three Mile Island I think we've learned one thing, and I think it's become quite clear to people one thing. These kinds of accidents can happen. This very thing that happened we were told the chance is one in a million. You'll never see it. It can't happen. Our backup, everything, our safety procedures are too wonderful. Well, it did happen. And also the need for possible evacuation, it's a reality. You can possibly get into that situation where a large scale mass evacuation in a hurry is necessary.

And something that I've been thinking of ever since this thing happened, and I have never heard it brought up anywhere, we don't yet, and hopefully we never will, have the technology to control the weather. Any time I've heard weather mentioned, it relates to wind direction so we can know which way to tell people to go. Well, what if people

can't go? What if there's eight inches of snow out there and it's falling at two inches an hour during the winter months of the year?

In my estimation there's -- that alone is enough cause for no nuclear facility in the snow belt of this country should be allowed to operate during the winter months because you cannot insure evacuation.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. KEEFER: It's bad enough on dry roads. I honestly think that evacuation in this area is a joke. I don't think it will work. I see what it's like every day getting people back and forth to work.

Another thing with the evacuation. We left. We left the area on Friday. We were gone about a week until we came back. And I couldn't help but thinking of one thing as I was getting ready to leave. It's not the type of thing -- you know we've had evacuations, quite a few in recent years, down especially in the southern part of the country dealing with trains, train accidents, chemical leaks and so forth. This isn't the same type of thing. This is a whole different psychological ball game. It's easy when somebody says a train has wrecked and there's a cloud of chlorine gas and we have to evacuate immediately. Well you hop in your car and you leave because you know you're going to be able to come back. You

know that the gas isn't going to be there forever. In the case of an accident such as this, and I had in my mind the whole time as I was getting things together, I might not be coming back. What kind of things do I need? What kind of things do I have to search out that are of special value to me that I wouldn't want to leave behind? If an evacuation were ever ordered, I honestly don't think it would take me one hour. In many instances it would take them an hour just to get out of the house, at least, because they'd be pre-occupied with getting things together that they don't want to lose forever. They know they may never be able to return. It's always easy to say, you know, when you get to the point you look back on something and it's easy to say if it's just something little, and even here are some valves that should have been open or shut or so forth, and this and that. I just don't like what we're looking at. There's too many if's. There's the if of sabotage and terrorism. And I'll tell you one thing. After this, after seeing what's happened today and around the world and so forth, I think the stage is set for it. I think somewhere, sometime it's going to happen. And it so easily could; because you consider the power that one terrorist would have holding hostage a nuclear power plant with a few guys that happen to know how to -- I mean they could make any political demands they wanted to. I just can't see how -- I know one thing. I know that life hasn't

been normal for me and my family since. There's a lot of if's in the future. We really don't know what we're going to do, if we are going to stay in this area or what we're going to do or where we're going to end up.

I'd like to see Three Mile Island never open again. I'd like to see all nuclear power plants shut down, because I think there's a lot of -- there are people who are supposed to be protecting us, I mean the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. There was this thing with the iodine being released, and all the potassium iodide that was sent to this area so the people could take it so that if releases of iodine, -- I don't know when they were going to decide to pass these pills out. But the idea was that it would saturate the blood with iodine, so your body would be saturated and not tend to pick up the radioactive iodine. Yet I believe it was 1976 where we have the Chinese nuclear tests and a lot of iodine. I was living at State College at the time, and people were telling us to be sure and wash the fruit and stuff from our gardens. Where was potassium iodide then? Where was any mention of it then? I don't trust any of this. I really don't. I don't trust the whole nuclear industry. I don't trust Met Ed. They're never going to restore my trust with any public relations firm. I'll tell you that.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you.

Ted Keck.

MR. KECK: I'd just like to say that we collectively as the citizens of the United States made a failure, and we've invested over \$100 million on nuclear technology throughout this country. If that same money -- if that same money were spent on solar energy and Civil Defense -- instead in the last six years we have blown it on -- we could have used it to make solar energy more efficient, geothermal, oil, solar. We have wasted 20 percent of our national debt and 20 years of our time on nuclear power. I live 15 miles from Three Mile Island. I packed away myself and my two most important possessions, my children. I have since sold my business and -- which was a lighting business for theatrical lighting. I toured the country. I have the capability of burning through here 360,000 watts every second. I've sold my business. With the finance of that sale, over the next four years and I would like to work against nuclear energy and alternate energy sources. My wife is interfering at PUC hearings. She has been accosted by the lawyers at the PUC, I might add. I think it's foolish.

The Price Anderson Act is one of the most absurd things I have ever heard about. I didn't know it existed before Three Mile Island. On March 28 I was on the fence about nuclear power. I could care less. I was burning 360,000 watts a second. I couldn't care one way or another. Since then, I've read, and I've read a lot. I have read some

of the books he has mentioned. I believe you should read them also. The plant over there, we have got the turbines that run on steam. We've got generators. We've got coolant towers to cool the steam. We've got power reconnections. We've even got coal. And Met Ed says they can't turn the plant over to coal. We need clean, safe energy in this country without a doubt. It's a shame that we have wasted \$100 million in 20 years on this technology. But anyway, gentlemen, what can you do? You can write additional insurance coverage for the state over and above the ridiculous amount the Price Anderson Act has stated. It's my true belief that if everybody in this country knew about the Price Anderson Act, that the law would just have to fail. You can rid us of Met Ed and GPU and Penelec. You can say no to uranium mines in this state. You can punish Met Ed in some way. You can decrease their rates instead of increasing them like what my wife is trying to fight at the PUC hearings and the so-called consumer advocate deal to give them 11 percent rate increase. And I believe you'll see that come. I hope not. I pray to God not. I don't have any faith in the system at all. Somehow we can replace the arrogance of the officials at Metropolitan Edison. They've been disgusting through this whole matter. You can revoke their license to be in business in this state, and you can try them for manslaughter for the one to 10,000 debts that's going to occur from that accident.

Any questions?

BY REPRESENTATIVE COHEN:

Q Did you say you sold your business?

A That's correct.

Q And what are you going to do with the proceeds?

A I financed the sale of that business over the next four years. I plan to spend my time, my money in fighting nuclear power in this country, around the world, and, as well, do alternative energy sources. It's working anyway. I'm planning a solar heat project in my house right now. I haven't got the paperwork in yet for that \$400 grant that was mentioned tonight. I believe the time is running out on that, am I correct?

Q Were you active before this in the nuclear power issues?

A No, never.

BY REPRESENTATIVE ITKIN:

Q I just want -- one figure you said 360,000 -- you used that number. You used the number 360,000 watts per second.

A I have a capability of burning 360,000 watts when I turn my lighting systems on.

Q 360,000 watts?

A That's right. They're 1,000 watt power amps. It's common practice in my industry that I just left that these systems can burn up to that much power. I have toured with

Andy Gibb, Charlie Pride, literally hundreds of people in the last eight years that I have worked with. And the larger system -- well, I had two systems, and I could put them all together to burn 360,000 watts.

Q You didn't say watts per second. You just said watts.

A Watts. That's watt hours if you burn them all for an hour.

Q Well if you used them all for one hour, that would be 360,000 watt hours?

A That's right.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, Mr. Keck.

Dr. Michael Gluck.

DR. GLUCK: My name is Dr. Michael Gluck. I am a specialist in internal medicine and currently practice in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, at a very large practice. Because I am a physician and live within five miles of TMI, many people and patients have questioned me on the health effects related to the TMI accident. In the last eight weeks I have learned an enormous amount about the effects of radiation on health. I have read and will present to you some of the literature written and published in some of the most prestigious medical journals from which doctors all over the world combine their medical education after leaving their training programs.

Before I elaborate on medical effects of radiation, let's look at the area surrounding Three Mile Island. Was

there a thorough study of the health of the people before the operation of the plant began so there would be a base for comparison? Was any record kept of the health of persons exposed to radiation because of their occupation or because they lived along a transportation route or because they lived near the plant? What about the reproductive history of workers in the nuclear industry and of the population at risk. How many spontaneous miscarriages occur when one or both parents are exposed to radiation? How many birth defects and genetic diseases result from such pregnancies? Has the cancer rate increased? What about heart disease, cataracts, diabetes, arteriosclerosis? Are they occurring at a younger age than before? Realistically speaking, intentional or not, monitoring of public health has not kept pace with this new technology. It is disturbing that Three Mile Island was granted licensure without having facts available or a plan for a year by year update on these parameters.

In 1969 Dr. John Goffman, himself an M.D., discoverer of uranium 233, worked for the Atomic Energy Commission's Lawrence Livermore Radiation Laboratory. Based upon his research, he announced that if all Americans were annually exposed to the official allowable dose of 170 millirems or the equivalent of six chest x-rays over and above background levels, there would be an increase of 32,000 to 300,000 deaths from cancer each year. After this information

was published, his research funds were terminated.

The association of low dose pre-natal x-ray exposure and leukemia has been known for years, and it is clear that the developing fetus may be particularly sensitive to ionizing radiation. Irradiation to young women for menstrual disorders increased their risk of leukemias. Children irradiated for ringworm of the scalp and enlarged glands has an increased incidence of leukemia as well as higher numbers of thyroid cancers even with doses as low as six rems while five rems is the allowable exposure for radiation workers.

The experience of radiologists should give us pertinent information on a profession with chronic low dose radiation. A study completed in 1975 revealed that when compared with other physician specialists, radiologists were found to have higher incidence rate of cancer, especially leukemia and cardiovascular disease. Their life span was significantly shorter than their peers in other medical specialties.

In 1965 Wagoner reported in the New England Journal of Medicine an increased death rate from lung cancer in uranium miners which correlated with the amount of airborne radiation the workers inhaled. In 1972 the New England Journal of Medicine published Bross' study that children irradiated in utero who also had allergies had a tenfold increased incidence of leukemia.

In 1964 Dr. Thomas Mancuso was funded to do a study to determine whether low level radiation induced biological effects in nuclear workers at two of the oldest and largest U. S. atomic reactors. Over a ten-year period his first results were negative, and in 1974 the A.E.C. began pressuring him to publish his findings. He refused because he knew it would take longer for the cancer effects to appear, but the Atomic Energy Commission demanded he surrender his data and terminated his funding. But he continued to work and eventually found a six to seven percent increase in radiation-related cancer deaths among the workers at acceptable levels. In fact, Mancuso discovered that the dose of which leukemia is doubled is 3.6 rems per lifetime and of which cancer is doubled is 33 to 38 rems per lifetime. Today every nuclear worker is allowed a dose of five rems per year, which means workers may be exposed to doubling doses, that is the dose at which a disease rate is doubled, each year for leukemia, and cancer every seven and a half years.

In May 1978 the Lancet published a study reporting that nuclear submarine workers at Portsmouth Nuclear Shipyard who were alleged to have radiation exposure well within the national limit had a sixfold excess leukemia and a twofold excess of cancer mortality rate as compared to non-nuclear workers who performed the same daily jobs but without nuclear radiation exposure.

I have only touched on several of many articles, and there are more.

I, myself, as well as fellow physicians practicing in the Harrisburg area, have already seen adverse health effects caused by the stress of dealing with the TMI incident. It is an indisputable medical fact that mental stress and organic disease go hand in hand. Other doctors as well as I have seen many patients who still have daily nightmares and cannot sleep. They describe to me a constant feeling of unrest which dates back to the accident and a fear of being unable to cope if TMI re-opens.

Gentlemen, I hope you have some spare time in your busy schedule to sit down and review some of this literature. I'm going to present the Chairman with a complete packet, and we'll send a copy to everyone in the Committee. They're all from prominent medical journals. I'll read them to you. Radiation Exposures of Hampton Workers Dieing From Cancer and Other Causes, Health Physics; The Current Mortality Rate of Radiologists and Other Physician Specialists Specific Causes of Death; Radiation Induced Chromosome Aberrations in Nuclear Dockyard Workers; Mortality from Leukemia and Cancer in Shipyard Nuclear Workers; British Medical Journal, Mortality from Cancer and Other Causes After Radiotherapy for Ankloycic Spondylitis. New England Journal of Medicine, Continuing Occurrence of Thyroid Carcinoma after Radiation

to the Neck in Infancy and Childhood; The Lancet, Radiation Dose Effects in Relation to Obstetric X-rays in Childhood Cancer; Bethesda, Maryland N.I.A., Radiation is a Cause of Lung Cancer among Uranium Miners; Thyroid Abnormalities After Radiation Exposure in Infancy, that's the annals of internal medicine; Leukemia and Other Cancers Following Radiation from Pelvic Disease, Journal of Cancer; Radiation Induced Head and Neck Tumors, The Lancet; Leukemia from Low Level Radiation, New England Journal of Medicine.

If there are any articles you want to discuss with me or something you do not understand, please call me at any time. In my short time allotted, I have tried to impress upon you there is a large amount of medical literature which gives solid evidence for an association between radiation exposure and disease. It is important to keep in mind the nuclear industry is relatively young, and we may have barely begun to experience the effects radiation can have on us. We have no idea how low-level radiation will affect future generations. It is conceivable that the worst genetic abnormalities caused by radiation may show up in the far future.

In recent days it has been repeated many times that the radiation monitoring was inadequate for the first three days following the accident. No one really knows how much radiation any one individual received. To be honest, only long-range studies will tell us the answer to that question of

how much morbidity and mortality in central Pennsylvania came about as the result of the accident.

When I place the health and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth over and above all, I can only draw one conclusion. TMI should be closed until it can be proven absolutely safe from a technical viewpoint and until it can be proven beyond the shadow of a doubt that the radiation it is emitting is not harmful.

Gentlemen, after reviewing all I have read, I cannot see how proof of this sort is possible within the next 20 years.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

BY CHAIRMAN WRIGHT:

Q I heard the other night that background radiation in this country is six times higher than what it was in the state previously. Can you comment on that?

A I cannot, not as far as what you just said. I'm not familiar with it. I'd have to see it. I just don't know. There is an increase in background radiation as far as -- we have more televisions, things like that.

Q Do you know if there's any certificates around indicating what background radiation was back on an annual basis? Were we able to measure it?

A I don't know if there were accurate measuring data back then. As far as -- probably in the last 20 years, I'm sure there is data available. But probably common sense with

all the appliances and things, that there will be an increase in background.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We thank you.

DR. GLUCK: Thank you.

(At this point the audience applauded the witness.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: We are finished with the printed schedule. We have a couple of those people who wished to be recognized Edward Donahue? That's D-O-N-A-H-U-E, R. D. 2, Box 317.

MR. DONAHUE: Gentlemen, first of all let me thank you for this opportunity. I know you're tired, I'm tired, the young lady's fingers are tired. I'll try to be brief.

I understand that one of the objectives of your Committee is to examine the role of nuclear power meeting energy needs in the Commonwealth. If you'll stop for a minute and reflect on your presence here tonight, I think you'll realize that nuclear energy plays no role in meeting the needs of the power requirements of Pennsylvania. It should play no role. I submit to you that Pennsylvania is one of the most energy-rich states in this entire country. That energy exists in the form of coal. Before anyone recites the litany of danger, destruction and environmental contamination that's associated with the coal industry, let me tell you that I lived in Shamoken, Pennsylvania for 20 years of my life. I know all about strip mines. I know all about acid mine runoff.

I'm very familiar with it. I submit to you that the problems that occurred in the coal industry occurred at a point in time when coal as an energy source was competing with cheap oil, cheap natural gas. In the economic face does not exist in the industry. The social and legislative presence of mind did not exist in this state to prevent the problems that did happen. That is not the case today. When nuclear energy dies in this country, and will, don't let Pennsylvania be made the fool for sitting on 400 years worth of energy and not using it.

As I said, the problems that occurred in the past can be prevented. The technology exists. We know how to fill in strip mines. We know how to neutralize acid mine runoff. We know how to plant trees where the strip mines were. In short, the coal industry knows how to solve the problem. That's a lot more than any of us can say for the clowns over here on t' n Island.

I would also submit to you that I am here as a private citizen. I am not affiliated in any way with the coal industry in this state and have never been. It's simply my personal opinion.

I'd like to make a few additional comments on Civil Defense in this state, Emergency Preparedness or whatever you want to call it. I spent some time in the Pennsylvania National Guard, a little place called Pittsburgh during the '60's, a period of social unrest. I spent 11 days on duty in Harrisburg

during the party that they called Agnes. I have had first-hand exposure to Civil Defense. Let me tell you a little story about it. I have a bicycle at home. I used the bicycle about two or three times a year. Invariably, when I do go to use it, it has a flat tire, it's covered with dust, it needs lubricated. Gentlemen, Civil Defense in this state is Pennsylvania's bicycle.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

MR. DONAHUE: Civil Defense is ineffective, as any behavioral psychologist will tell you, and I'm not one, because of misuse. It's the same philosophy that's involved, I would imagine, with people who work eight hours a day on this Island watch a little gauge. For four years nothing happens. They are lulled into a false sense of security. On March 28 something did happen, and they blew it.

Getting back to my point on Civil Defense. I submit to you that if you want something to work, exercise it. Get on the bicycle. That's the only way it's going to happen.

Let me make one more comment on the human connection. I evacuated on March 30th with my wife. As a matter of fact, I went to those strip mines in Shamokin. March 30th they looked awful damn good. In short, I experienced the same psychological trauma that many of the people in this area did. The thing that worries me, along with the obvious health aspects that I've already been talking about, the thing that

really worries me is the fact that I think there's a psychological time bomb existing right here with us. Most of the people, 99.9 percent of the people in this area, have placed the system on trial. They're law-abiding people. They're not violent people. They want the system to do its job. I hope it does. Because I'm afraid because of the fact that people are living in fear and the fact that they were suppressed subconsciously, some of that fear, another disaster such as we had on March 28 is going to set the stage for very, very unpleasant social conflict. I hope that doesn't happen.

As I said earlier, I spent some time in Pittsburgh in the '60's during a period of social conflict. It's ugly, and I don't ever want to see it again. I hope I don't.

One more thing. I wrote a letter today to Chairman Hendrick (phonetic) of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I sent a copy to each of the other Commissioners. I asked him and the other Commissioners to never re-open unit number one at TMI. I understand you gentlemen do not have the power to mandate that the unit is not re-opened. But I would ask you to do what I did. I would ask you, as a body, to officially ask them to never re-open it.

Thank you.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Mr. Whittock?

MR. WHITTOCK: Mr. Chairman and members of the

Legislature, I'm a professional engineer, and I have lived in the Borough of Goldsboro for ten years opposite the nuclear plant. We've covered a lot of ground this evening, and a lot of the points that I had in mind have been covered, I might say a lot better I'm sure than I could have covered it. So I'm just going to make my statement brief with a few comments.

Number one comment is about evacuation. Now five years ago I was an intervener when they applied for the application or permit for unit number one at the hearing held in the North Office Building in the PUC hearing room. At this time I raised the question of evacuation planning. That was all that was ever done on it as far as I know, just raising the question. But I just wanted to say at that time there was a question brought before the proper authorities. That's the comment I have on that.

Number two, I have is about the low intensity radiation. Apparently there is no answer to what the effects of the low level radiation will have. The medical authorities are not able or willing to give us a comment on that. The nuclear waste problem is another one that's hanging in the air. No decision as to what the proper disposition of nuclear waste is.

Another question is the young people. Apparently the young people -- I think this will interest you politicians, because young people seem to be very much against this type of

energy which is represented by their hearings that they're having and meetings and even some activities there -- riots. And these young people are going to be the leaders within the next ten or twenty years. They'll be taking your places. And I feel that we should consider them in making your opinion now, because they may have to undo a lot that you people do if they don't agree with you.

Now another question or thing that's in my mind, when Vance Fisher gave his talk he raised the question about some waste other than the nuclear waste that is having some effect on his cattle. Well I talked to Vance a couple weeks ago. I stopped at his farm. I heard that his cattle were dieing and talked to him about it. And at that time we considered that the towers themselves were emitting steam, and the steam was being formed by water from the Susquehanna River. The water from the Susquehanna River is rather polluted. There's a lot of chemicals in it. There's a lot of minerals in it, and it has acids in and very complex chemical compounds that come from the industrial plants. And the question was whether this non-radioactive material that was being emitted with the steam and the little droplets of water coming out of these stacks were being dropped, especially when we have rain, whether they were being dropped on his farmland and the cattle were eating that, digesting it; and that we thought was something that should be investigated. I'm not qualified to give you any

professional opinion on that. I just raised the point.

Another thing, several years ago, I believe it was about 1976, there was a group of people that were going to let out some balloons over on Penn State Campus. And I got a call from one of them. They said they wouldn't let them let the balloons go. I believe that was the Three Mile Island alert people or their president. I really don't know too much about them, but they asked if they could let the balloons go in my yard since I'm right opposite the plant. I said yes, because I was always against the plant for personal reasons. So lo and behold, here comes the State Police Detective. He came up to my porch. My wife and I were sitting there. These people hadn't arrived yet. He said I hear that they're going to have a balloon release over here. I said yes. I said some people had asked me permission to do this. And he said what group of activists do you belong to? I said I don't belong to any. I said I just represent myself. I said this thing is devaluing my property, and, I said, just as a citizen, I don't like it. I said that's why I was going along with them. That irked me a little bit, because my people, like Vance Fisher, came into this country in 1725. My grandfather fought in the Civil War. I fought in World War II and I fought in the Korean War. I certainly resented that detective coming up there on my front porch and asking me those questions.

I don't think I have too much more. One further thing that I had written in another comment that I had made, and I'll just read this. Because of the inexcusable gullibility of the Carter Administration, we have embarked into a deadend in the evolution of the power industry in the United States of America. Nuclear fission will meet its extinction as sure as that of the dinosaur.

That's all I have to say.

(At this point the audience applauded.)

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Representative Cohen.

BY REPRESENTATIVE COHEN:

Q Thank you. When did the State Police talk to you?

A They talked to me the day before they had the balloon release here, I think it was 1967. I don't know what day that was. And I don't know his name. He did give me a card, but I didn't keep it.

Q What was the purpose of this balloon release?

A The balloon people were leaving off a balloon that had a little message on it to the effect that wherever this balloon lands may represent where some radioactivity may fall. And from what I found out, they collected balloons over in Delaware and outside of Philadelphia and down in New Jersey.

Q This took place in 1967?

A Yes, back in the fall.

'76, I'm sorry.

CHAIRMAN WRIGHT: Thank you, sir.

Gene Bartling (phonetic)?

I think at this point I'd like to say thank you to all you people on behalf of the Committee. Thank you to the local citizens and the fire company for allowing us to use their facilities tonight.

(The hearing terminated at 11:00 P.M.)

I hereby certify that the proceedings taken by me before the House Select Committee - Three Mile Island are fully and accurately indicated in my notes and that this is a true and correct transcript of same.

Carol J. Christy

Carol J. Christy, Reporter

Rec'd 6/28/79

Please deliver to
Rept. Wright &
tell Ann Hand or
Peg Geron, that these
were to be included
in back of transcript
for TMI on 6/6

Galdsboro. They were
not to be typed in
just put in the book.
& offer our apologies
for forgetting this.

WILLIAM B. WHITTOCK

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

1810 MARKET STREET . . CAMP HILL, PENNA. 17011

TELEPHONE 737-3495

ALTERNATIVES TO NUCLEAR POWER

I WAS AN EYE WITNESS TO THE NUCLEAR ACCIDENT ON 28 TH MARCH 1980
AND SUBSEQUENTLY WAS A REFUGEE IN MY OWN STATE.

BECAUSE OF INEXCUSABLE GULLIBILITY OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION,
WE HAVE EMBARKED INTO A DEAD END IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE POWER
INDUSTRY IN THE U.S.A.. NUCLEAR FISSION WILL MEET IT'S EXTINCTION AS SURE
AS THAT OF THE DINOSAUR.

IF THE BILLIONS POURED INTO NUCLEAR PLANTS HAD BEEN DIRECTED
TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR GREAT RESOURCES OF TRILLIONS OF TONS OF
COAL IN THIS UNITED STATES, WE WOULD NOW HAVE GAS, OIL, AND GASOLINE
IN QUANTITIES, LARGE ENOUGH TO RENDER US SELF SUFFICIENT IN THESE
CRITICAL NEEDS.

^{COAL}
COAL MAY BE SYNTHESIZED INTO GAS, OIL, AND GASOLINE.

WE WOULD NOT BE DRAINING OUR FINANCIAL LIFE'S BLOOD INTO THE
BOTTOMLESS PIT OF THE NEAR EAST COUNTRIES.

OUR EFFORTS WOULD AND SHOULD BE EXPENDED IN OUR OWN LAND, AND OUR
MONEY WOULD REMAIN IN THIS COUNTRY; GIVING WORK TO OUR OWN CITIZENS.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE PROCEED WITHOUT DELAY FOR THE IMMEDIATE
DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NEEDS BY USE OF COAL.

MEANWHILE, WE MAY CONTINUE TO UNFOLD THE METHODS FOR EVEN MORE
DESIRABLE WAYS OF TAPPING ENERGY FROM SOLAR SOURCES, ATOMIC FUSION
OR OTHER MEANS, NOT DETRIMENTAL TO HUMAN LIFE.

SIGNED



P.U.C. HEARING, TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1979

STATEMENT OF: WILLIAM B. WHITTOCK, RESIDENT OF GOLDSBORO PA. 10 YEARS.

I AM A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER.

- (1) FIVE YEARS AGO, IN THIS ROOM, I ADVOCATED AN EVACUATION PLAN AT THE HEARINGS, IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPERATION OF TMI UNIT #1. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THIS ADVOCATION AT THAT TIME.
- (2) I NOW STATE THAT THE RESIDENTS WITHIN THE 10 MILE RADIUS OF TMI, OR ANY OTHER NUCLEAR SITE, BEAR A SPECIAL BURDEN THAT IS NOT SHARED BY RESIDENTS LIVING IN MORE DISTANT AREAS. THE DISTANT RESIDENTS, SOME EVEN OUT OF STATE, ENJOY ALL THE BENEFITS OF THE ELECTRICAL SERVICE WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THEIR PROPERTY, HEALTH, OR PEACE OF MIND.
- (3) UNTIL THE NUCLEAR GENERATORS ARE REMOVED AND REPLACED BY CONVENTIONAL WAYS OF POWER GENERATION, IT IS INEQUITABLE AND UNFAIR TO ASK THOSE LIVING WITHIN THE CRITICAL DISTANCE FROM TMI TO SUPPORT ANY INCREASED COST.

I NOW ADVOCATE THAT RESIDENTS LIVING WITHIN A TEN MILE RADIUS OF TMI BE ABSOLVED FROM ANY RATE INCREASE DUE TO NUCLEAR ACCIDENT.

THANK-YOU

William B. Whittock

My name is Jean Bartling and my home is 7 Fairway Drive, Eters, Pa. 7 Fairway Drive is approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, as the radiation falls from the Unit 2 reactor at Three Mile Island.

I would like to express to this commission some of the ways in which my family has been affected and how I feel about the way people in this area immediately surrounding TMI have been treated.

On the now infamous date of Wednesday, March 28, 1979, at 8:15 a.m., my eleven-year-old son and the other children in the neighborhood waited at the bus stop at the time when the radioactive gases being released from the malfunctioning unit 2 were the Hottest!! However, we parents were not being neglectful parents subjecting our children to unknown quantities of radiation...no, we were parents who did not know of the accident, did not know of the radioactive releases. For three days, Wed., Thurs., and Friday, our children waited for the bus...still because we were not told of the potential dangers. Naively, I believed that if there was any danger, our governor would certainly not allow the schools to be kept open. I soon learned not to believe anyone!

I didn't even begin to know the extent of the possible dangers until I began receiving phone calls from relatives and friends in New Jersey urging us to leave the area. It seems that they were receiving much more comprehensive reports there than we were here.

Still waiting for Gov. Thornburgh to issue general evacuation orders - and I'm still waiting --- we decided to avoid the last-minute rush and leave the area on Friday March 30. We went to Fishing Creek School to pick up our son at about 1:30 p.m., only to find the children being put on buses to be evacuated to Dillsburg ---without notifying the parents. I find this most distressing. Added to the worry over the reactor, whether or not to evacuate - now some parents were going to have the additional

worry of "where are the children?"

However, when your home is here, as ours is, you have to return. Since our return we have had to cope with nightmares, depression, statements from an eleven year old - "I really don't have to plan for my future because I'll probably die of cancer when I'm a young man." But of course we all know by now that there was such a low level of radiation released from the plant that no one could possibly be harmed, according to Met-Ed, that is! Why, they even think that we should pay for being radiated! But we also know, as a fact and not one of Met-Ed's lies, that according to Dr. John Gofman, "there is no such thing as a safe dose" of nuclear radiation. Scientists also tell us that low-dose radiation causes cancer, leukemia and genetic damage.

No, no one was killed at TMI, but the total effects of the radiation will not be known for years, the final score is yet to be counted. This the cloud our children will live and grow under. Normal pressures of growing into maturity are traumatic enough. They really did not need this terrifying experience.

And now GPU wants to reopen Unit 1 in August! With the problems of Unit 2 no closer to a solution than they were on March 28, it is totally incomprehensible to me that even GPU with their gross insensitivity to a community still reeling can suggest this.

We are scared and we are angry. We have been lied to over and over again. We were made guinea pigs for Met Ed's gross incompetence. Our lives have been irreparably disrupted, our children's futures are under a black cloud of radiation, and now they, (Met- Ed), and even our own Governor Thornburg, think we should pay for it!

Met-Ed and GPU call Three Mile Island "an accident", Dick Thornburg refers to it as an "incident", I call it "AN OUTRAGE!"