



OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN

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

COMMISSION
CORRESPONDENCE

50-320

October 8, 1980

Mr. John F. Clancy, Jr.
Director, Committee Management Secretariat (NAM)
National Archives and Records Service
General Services Administration
Washington, D. C. 20408

Dear Mr. Clancy:

Section 9 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, U.S.C. App. I, requires that agencies consult with the Administrator of the General Services Administration prior to creation of an advisory committee. OMB's Advisory Committee Management Guidance (Circular No. A63 Rev.) dated March 27, 1974, details that information required to initiate this consultation. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seriously concerned about the need for public input and understanding of the major activities required to decontaminate and safely clean up the Three Mile Island, Unit 2, facility near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Commission desires to create an advisory committee to provide consultation and advice on this subject. The following information is submitted in compliance with that Guidance.

Purpose of the Panel

After the accident at Three Mile Island 2 in March 1979, many different groups were established to investigate the accident. One of these groups, the NRC Special Task Force of the Three Mile Island Cleanup (Haller Task Force), concluded in its report issued on February 28, 1980, that "...without local public understanding and acceptance of the cleanup operation at TMI-2, an orderly and expeditious cleanup will be difficult, if not impossible, to accomplish." The task force further stated that the NRC should "...establish formal means to obtain input from the public on the overall cleanup plan and the individual steps to be taken before they are made final and are implemented. This could take the form of a citizens' advisory group to contribute to development of the programmatic statement as has been recommended at several scoping meetings."

Congress also has under consideration, as part of NRC's pending FY 81 Authorization Legislation, the establishment of a Three Mile Island Advisory Panel. The current House of Representatives' requirements for this panel are given in Section 106 of H.R. 7981.

The Commission believes that it would be highly desirable to convene a special advisory panel for the purpose of obtaining input and views from the residents of the Three Mile Island area on the clean-up plans. The Panel will provide the Commission and the TMI community with valuable counsel and insight. It will also afford Pennsylvania residents and government officials an opportunity to play a part in the Commission's decisional process regarding the clean-up.

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The panel would consider the comments expressed by the local residents, and would make recommendations to the Commission. Should technical assessments beyond the scope of the panelists be required, the panel may obtain the assistance of the Commission's Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards. Recommendations made by the Panel are expected to aid the NRC in developing the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement related to clean-up and disposal of radioactive waste; the draft PEIS was published in July 1980. A draft Charter for the Panel is enclosed.

Need for the Panel

The Commission believes that an advisory group is an appropriate vehicle for obtaining the views of residents and officials in the vicinity of the Three Mile Island facility on clean-up issues. Indeed, because of the relative complexity of some of the questions anticipated and the interrelationship between various options and subsequent actions, a group with some continuity and support appears to be the only reasonable way to obtain the useful information.

Other alternatives such as a series of open forums whereby citizens simply address a panel of NRC officials could not be expected to furnish the quality of input desired. We are not aware of any other advisory committee which could fulfill the purpose of the TMI Advisory Panel.

NRC's Plan to Attain Balanced Membership

Steps to obtain a balanced membership are well developed. The pending legislation specifies that panel shall consist of twelve members selected by the Commission as follows:

- (1) Three members shall be appointed from among persons representing agencies of the State of Pennsylvania;
- (2) Three members shall be appointed from among persons representing local government authorities in the vicinity of Three Mile Island nuclear reactor;
- (3) Three members shall be appointed from among persons representing the scientific community; and
- (4) Three members shall be appointed from among persons having their principal place of residence in the vicinity of the Three Mile Island nuclear reactor.

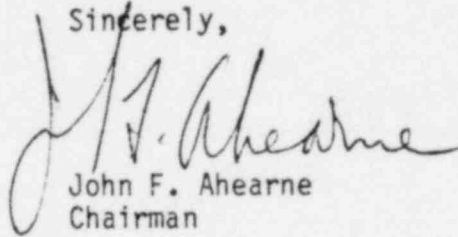
Mr. John F. Clancy, Jr.

- 3 -

The Commission believes that this allocation of member positions provides reasonable balance to the group and plans to make its selection accordingly.

We would be pleased to provide any additional information you may require to assess the merits of the proposed committee. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. F. Ahearne".

John F. Ahearne
Chairman

Enclosure:
Dft. Charter for TMI-2
Advisory Panel

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Charter for Three Mile Island-2 Advisory Panel
(Pursuant to Section 9 of Public Law 92-463)

DRAFT

1. Three Mile Island-2 Advisory Panel
(Committee's Official Designation)
2. Committee's objectives and scope of activities and duties:

The Panel consults with and provides advice to the Commission on major activities required to decontaminate and safely cleanup the TMI-2 facility
3. Time Period:

From October 1980 to January 1985
4. Agency to whom the Panel reports:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
5. Agency responsible for providing the necessary support:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555
6. Duties of Panel:

See item 2 above
7. Estimated annual cost of the Panel:
 - a. \$10,000¹⁾
 - b. Less than one manyear
8. Estimated number of meetings per year:

Four meetings per year
9. The Panel's termination data:

January 1985 or earlier
10. Date of filing

1) Allowed expenses, including travel and per diem