

2 Coldport Drive  
Huntington, N.Y., 11743  
August 8, 1980

Mr. Harold R. Denton  
Nuclear Regulatory Comm.  
1717 H St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Denton:

RE: Three Mile Island Air Pollution

According to news reports the NRC approved venting of radio active Krypton gas from TMI because of your recommendation and their belief that it would be harmless to the public. The only basis for your recommendation was reported to be a faster cleanup of the containment building. This seems identical to a conclusion of a Congressional sub-committee which charged recently that the now defunct Atomic Energy Committee was more concerned with its goal than to provide adequate protection for the public.

I would like to know why the NRC and not the Environmental Protection Agency has the authority to rule on permitting nuclear pollution to be vented into the atmosphere. Why is the EPA reduced to the status of only an observer ?

At the time of the TMI accident it was mentioned that in addition to Krypton 85 were also caesium 137, strontium 90, with its affinity to bones, and iodine 131 causing thyroid damage. Were these dangerous chemical contaminants released with the Krypton gas and if not where did they go ?

The media reported that 57000 Curies of Krypton radiation were to be released, but this is a term no longer used according to a reference book, and I cannot find any conversion to Rads or Rems which are in common use. I would appreciate a conversion of 57000 curies to Rads.

I would like to know how the NRC arrived at its belief that the release of radio-active chemicals would not be harmful to the public. Does the NRC have medical doctors on its staff and were tests made with animals ?

I will appreciate a reply to my questions.

Yours truly,

*Aldo Marchetti*

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