PROD. & UTIL FAC. 50-120



Montgomery County Covernment

ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850



December 16, 1980

Secretary of the Commission United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Docketing and Service Section

Gentlemen:

We are writing to you with reference to the notice that appeared in the Federal Register (Vol. 45, No. 229) dated November 25, 1980, pertaining to the renewal of the Facility License No. R-84 issued to the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) for the operation of a TRIGA-type research reactor located on the National Naval Medical Center site in Montgomery County, Maryland.

As the local government officials responsible for the health and safety of the residents of our County, we are sincerely interested and concerned about any possible threat that this operation may present to the employees of the facility as well as the people who reside in adjacent areas.

Therefore we wish to support petitions before you requesting the Nuclear Regulatory Agency to hold a public hearing prior to extending the license of this facility to the year 2000. We feel that it is in the public interest that such a hearing be held so that arguments pro and con can be heard and evaluated by the NRC, the agency responsible for relicensing such operations.

Further, the Montgomery County government would respectfully request that an appropriate Federal agency be directed to prepare an environmental impact statement on this facility as it concerns the operation of the reactor.

Your early consideration of our requests will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Gilchrist

County Executive

Ruth Spector

President, County Council

0503