

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON D C. 20555

December 23, 1980

Herbert Grossman, Esq., Chairman Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Dr. Richard F. Cole Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Mr. Glenn O. Bright Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

In the Matter of NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY (Bailly Generating Station, Nuclear-1) Docket No. 50-367 (Construction Permit Extension)

Dear Judges:

On August 6, 1980, the Staff mailed you a Federal Register notice entitled "Procedural Assistance in Adjudicatory Licensing Proceedings," 45 Fed. Reg. 49535 (July 25, 1980). The Comptroller General issued an opinion on December 3, 1980 that this aid was not permissible under law.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Comptroller General's opinion and his letter to Chairman Ahearne.

Sincerely.

Steven C. Goldberg Counsel for NRC Staff

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Enclosures As stated

cc w/encl.: Kathleen H. Shea, Esq. Robert J. Vollen, Esq. Edward W. Osann, Jr., Esq. Robert L. Graham, Esq. George and Anna Grabowski William H. Eichhorn, Esq.

> Diane B. Cohn, Esq. John Van Vranken, Esq., Chief Clifford Mezo, Acting President

Atomic Safety and Licensing

Board Panel

Atomic Safety and Licensing

Appeal Board Panel

Docketing and Service Section

## POOR ORIGINAL

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December 3, 1980

The Priorable John F. Mearne Chaire h, Nuclear Regulatory Countssion

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We are enclosing for your information our letter of this date to the Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy Research and Freduction, Committee on Science and Technology, Mouse of Representatives. In our letter we conclude that the Nuclear by the Energy and Water Davelopment Appropriation Act, 1931, Pub. L. No. 96-367, 94 Stat. 1331, to implement the procedural cost reduction program announced by the Commission in the Federal Register on July 25, 1980 (45 Fed. Reg. 49535).

Sincerely yours,

Comptroller Cenaral of the United States

Enclosure

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