

## Lake Michigan Federation

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Citizen Action to Protect a Great Lake

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May 9, 1980

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Mr. John F. Ahearne Chairman U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION Washington D.C. 20556

Dear Mr. Ahearne:

A few months ago the Lake Michigan Federation completed a report on the impacts that the construction and operation of the Bailly Nuclear Power Plant could have on the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. I am enclosing a copy of that report for your information.

The report raises serious questions about the impact on the National Lakeshore of the Bailly plant. These questions should be considered by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

We are requesting that the Commission inquire further into the matter, utilizing whatever hearing processes are available to consid . the impact on the dunes.

Richard L. Robbins

Sinceres

Executive Director

RLR/rpm

Encl:

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### Published by The Lake Michigan Federation

# Lake Michigan Papers

#### HOW THE BAILLY NUCLEAR PLANT

#### COULD DRY UP THE DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE

MUST ENERGY IMPACT RECREATION?

#### ABSTRACT

Construction of the Bailly nuclear power plant by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company requires withdrawing water from the same water supply that feeds the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and the Cowles Bog. Termination of present alkaline seepage into the aquifer from ash-ponds will further aggravate the problem. Although extensive studies have been completed to model the effects, certain situations have not been analyzed. The effect of termination of seepage has not been studied. Nor has the newly discovered need to draw water from the lower aquifer or the effect of a "window" in the Cowles Bog. The injection of new water to cure withdrawal may cure quantity problems but could cause problems with the "quality" of the water.

The Federation recommends that pumping be halted until studies are completed, that the U.S. Geological Survey continue its studies and insure they are comprehensive, that a competent team be assembled to study the effects of different quality of water being injected and that the National Park Service exert a strengthened role in protecting the Lakeshore.

> Carol Newcomb and Richard L. Robbins Lake Michigan Federation

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Chicago

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DUPLICATE DOCUMENT

Entire document previously entered into system under:

ANO 800 6300 393

No. of pages:

Dup 8006300593