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Honorable John F. Ahearne  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20555

Dear ~~Mr. Ahearne~~: *John*

As you know, the decontamination and disposal of radioactive wastes resulting from the March 29, 1978 accident at Three Mile Island are matters of great concern to many Marylanders. The potential danger posed by these wastes to Maryland's water supply and seafood industry makes it imperative that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission take special care to involve Maryland citizens and officials in all phases of the clean-up process.

In view of these concerns, I would like to commend the Commission's recent efforts to encourage public comment on the Three Mile Island Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. Extending the comment period until November 20, 1980 will provide much needed additional time for careful analysis of this highly technical document. In addition, a recently held public meeting in Annapolis stimulated a useful exchange of information between Commission staff members and concerned citizens.

Recognizing the value of these recent efforts, I am writing to express my strong belief that additional face to face contact between the Commission and members of the public is both desirable and necessary. In particular, I urge the Commission to promptly schedule a public meeting, to be held in Baltimore, at which concerned citizens and officials may question Commissioners and members of their staff on the clean-up process and comment upon the draft EIS. The holding of such a meeting in Maryland's largest city will not only facilitate the participation of large numbers of citizens in this important dialogue, but will also demonstrate the Commission's resolve to take whatever steps are necessary to insure that its clean-up plans are publically aired prior to implementation. In this regard, it is important that the meeting be preceeded by publicity sufficient to give adequate notice to all who might wish to attend.

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