

CONTEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT TO JOSEPH HENDRIE, CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION ON TUESDAY, MAY 29, 1979:

I have been informed by representatives of the Consumers Power Company that your Commission has or may consider interrupting the operating licensing review process for the Midland Nuclear Power Plant now being carried out by staff of the NRC. I understand that the interruption is based on staffing limitations, and is not related to safety issues. Apparently, NRC staff believe such a delay would be without adverse impact and is based on staff analysis that the plant will not be completed on schedule. However, Consumers Power indicates that the proposed plant will be completed as scheduled and a licensing interruption would significantly delay plant operation. If the latter is the case, such action would add considerably to the overall cost of construction and would increase later costs of electrical power to ratepayers.

Although I am aware the NRC and its staff are under a considerable present-time burden, I urge you to reconsider your evidence in this matter. I believe it would be beneficial to all parties if you would instruct your staff to review their assessment of the Midland operating schedule, including an investigation with the Company and an inspection of the plant and its records, before any action on this matter is taken by your Commission. If NRC staffing limits will cause licensing delays, my concern is that best available evidence be employed in the allocation of resources.

I thank you for your consideration.



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Daniel J. Demlow, Chairman
Public Service Commission

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY)	Docket No. (s) 50-329 OL
)	50-330 OL
(Midland Plant, Units 1 and 2))	
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, I have this day served the foregoing document(s) upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Office of the Secretary of the Commission in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.712 of 10 CFR Part 2 - Rules of Practice, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Rules and Regulations.

Dated at Washington, D.C. this
22 day of June 1979.

Deann T. Downing
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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SERVICE LIST

Ivan W. Smith, Esq., Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Lester Kornblith, Jr.
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. Frederick P. Cowan
6152 N. Verde Trail, Apt. B-125
Boca Raton, Florida 33433

Counsel for NRC Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Michael I. Miller, Esq.
Isham, Lincoln & Beale
One First National Bank Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Ms. Mary Sinclair
5711 Summerset Street
Midland, Michigan 48640

Steve Gadler, Esq.
2120 Carter Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

Grant J. Merritt, Esq.
Thompson, Nielsen, Klavekamp and
James
4444 IDS Center
80 South Eight Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Myron M. Cherry, Esq.
One IBM Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Gregory T. Taylor, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Environmental Protection Division
720 Law Building
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Judd L. Bacon, Esq.
Consumers Power Company
Legal Department
212 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, Michigan 49201