

LARRY HOPKINS
17th DISTRICT, KENTUCKY



COMMITTEE
AGRICULTURE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
AGING

314 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-0706

408 EAST MAIN
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40507
(606) 233-2848

175 JAMES HILL ROAD
HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY 40129
(606) 441-9086

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

April 29, 1981

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PROC. & OFF. FILE 50-358

Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H. St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Hendrie:

The enclosed correspondence from my constituent expresses a number of her concerns regarding the Zimmer nuclear power plant.

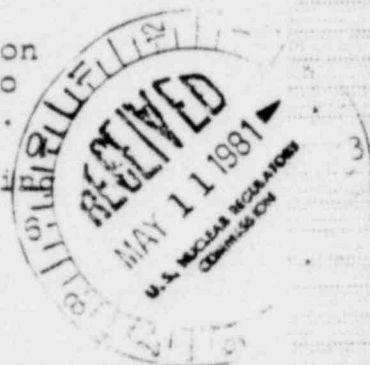
I would appreciate any information or assistance which would enable me to respond to my constituent's concerns. I would also like to receive a status report on the construction and licensing of the Zimmer plant.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance, I am,

Yours very truly,

LARRY J. HOPKINS
Member of Congress

LJH:mg
enclosure



DS03
5
11

H 8105140384

DOCKET NUMBER
PROC. & UTIL. FAC. 50-358

215 Aztec Trail
Georgetown, KY 40324
March 17, 1981



Congressman Larry J. Hopkins
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hopkins:

As you may recall, last summer during one of your trips to the Georgetown Courthouse we discussed both nuclear waste legislation and the Zimmer nuclear plant on the Ohio River in Moscow, Ohio. I am grateful to you that you later voted for a good nuclear waste management bill, HR 738. Now I am hoping that you will likewise do your best about Zimmer.

Grave allegations of mismanagement, criminal activities on the site, and safety defects have been brought against the plant. The history of the charges made by a Mr. Thomas Applegate is summarized in the pages from a newsletter of a citizens' group in Cincinnati, which I enclose. Mr. Applegate has recently been supported by the ~~Government Accountability Project of the Institute for Policy Studies~~, which has begun an independent investigation of the plant and has found witnesses who have sworn to further alarming problems, including control rods that are too big for the channels through which they must slide to slow down a reaction, cable trays so overloaded that cable may overheat and catch fire, and weakness in the walls of the suppression pool.

I have obtained a copy of the Government Accountability Project's Report to the Merit System Protection Board on the original charges brought by Mr. Applegate. Though the summary in the newsletter seems to be an accurate reflection of the report itself, you may wish to read the details. I believe that you can obtain a copy of the report and other relevant documentation from Tom Devine, Associate Director, Institute for Policy Studies, 1901 Que Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 (202-234-9382).

Mr. Applegate alleges that a common joke among pipefitters at Zimmer is that they plan to be hundreds of miles away when the plant begins operation, so sure are they that a catastrophic accident is likely. Georgetown is approximately forty-six miles from the plant, Lexington approximately fifty-eight. Please help make sure that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission investigation of Zimmer now underway is thorough and that, if necessary, a Congressional investigation will take place.

Sincerely,

Mary B Davis

Mary B. Davis

Enc