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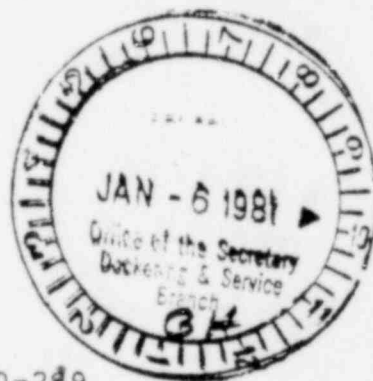
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January 5, 1981

Ivan Smith, Esquire
Chairman
Dr. Walter Jordan
Dr. Linda Little
Atomic Safety & Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555



RE: TMI-1 Restart Hearings, Docket No. 50-289

Dear Members of the Board:

During the past few weeks, it has become clear that the Union of Concerned Scientists does not have the resources to continue participating in the TMI-1 Restart hearings at the level and pace which has been established. Since September, 1980, Mr. Pollard and I have devoted more than full-time to this proceeding. This has, of course, included spending the bulk of the past two months in Harrisburg.

This commitment has been to the virtual exclusion of all other work of the Union of Concerned Scientists. Essentially all of UCS's resources in the area of nuclear safety - the time of Mr. Pollard and myself - have been devoted to this hearing for 4 1/2 months. UCS is simply unable to continue a commitment at that level. It has required neglecting many other pressing matters, including the Degraded Core Rulemaking, the wide-ranging proceeding on Indian Point and numerous other important projects.

Although we firmly believe that the issues which remain outstanding are important, and our substantive positions remain unchanged, UCS has reluctantly concluded that it has no choice but to withdraw Contention 9 (Safety System Status Panel); Contention 7 (Instrumentation to Detect Inadequate Core Cooling) and Contention 13 (Class 9 Accidents). We regret the necessity to take this course of action, which is unfortunately dictated by the gross disparity of resources between the Union of Concerned Scientists and the NRC Staff and Licensee.

Very truly yours,


Ellyn R. Weiss

cc: TMI-1 service list

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