



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

FEB 11 1981

Docket Nos. 50-483/48F



Mrs. Marilyn Hieionymus
Route 1, Box 71
Sedalia, Missouri 65301

Dear Mrs. Hieionymus:

Your letter of December 19, 1980 regarding radioactive release at the Callaway Nuclear Plant has been referred to me for reply.

Callaway Plant, Units 1 and 2 are currently under construction. Callaway 1 is tentatively scheduled for operation in February 1983 and Callaway 2 sometime later. Therefore, there will be no radioactive releases from these plants until operation of these units is initiated.

I believe that it would be useful to you if I explained our licensing process. Prior to the Callaway Plant, Units 1 and 2 going into operation, they must receive an operating license. This process was initiated for Unit 1 only when the Union Electric Company (the applicant for the Callaway Plant, Units 1 and 2) made application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and provided certain documentation including a Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR) and an Environmental Report (ER). The FSAR sets forth the pertinent details of the final design of the facility and a detailed review of the information will be made by the staff. The ER sets forth the environmental impact of the operation of the Callaway Plant and a detailed review of the information will also be made by the staff. At the conclusion of our review, a Safety Evaluation Report (SER) and Final Environmental Statement (FES) will be issued by the staff stating our findings. In addition to our review, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS), an independent statutory committee established to provide advice on reactor safety, will make an independent evaluation and present its advice to the Commission. Additionally, a public hearing may be held by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) if there is a petition for a hearing. It should be noted that a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing with respect to Callaway Unit 1 was issued on November 14, 1980 (copy enclosed). Since this letter will reach you after the latest date for filing petitions for hearing (December 22, 1980), I will note that the Commission's regulations permit a late filing under certain stringent conditions. If you are interested in filing a late petition for hearing, you should contact our Office of the Executive Legal Director on procedures for a late filing. Only after each of these steps has been satisfactorily completed can an operating license be issued.

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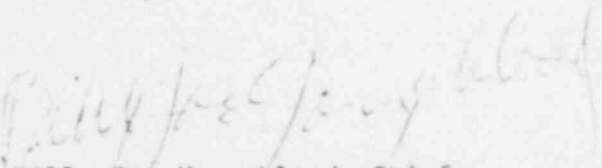
Mrs. Marilyn Hieionymus

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During operation of the Callaway plant, small amounts of gaseous and liquid radioactive material will enter the waste streams. These streams will be processed and monitored for radioactivity within the plant to reduce the quantities of radioactive material released to the atmosphere and to the Missouri River. In the Final Environmental Statement by the NRC in connection with the issuance of a permit for construction of the plant, the NRC staff concluded that the gaseous, liquid, and solid waste treatment systems were acceptable and that effluents and direct radiation from plant operation will be an extremely minor contributor to the radiation dose that persons living in the area normally receive from natural background radiation.

I trust that you will find this information useful.

Sincerely,



Billy Joe Youngblood, Chief
Licensing Branch 1
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation