



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

MAR 10 1981



Mr. Ben A. Fremstad, President  
Business, Industrial, and Professional Association  
61 Sutton Drive, Palmer Township  
Easton, Pennsylvania 18042

Dear Mr. Fremstad:

This is in reply to your letter of February 20, 1981, enclosing a resolution approved by the Board of your Association.

With regard to the Federal Government sharing the costs of recovery of Three Mile Island Unit 2, there is no existing statutory authority for any form of direct Federal financial aid to assist in paying such costs. Authority and appropriations would need to be provided by the Congress before this could be done. You may be interested in the enclosed report NUREG-0689 by staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on "Potential Impact of Licensee Default on Cleanup of TMI-2," published in November 1980. See especially pages 3-1 through 3-7.

A Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement related to decontamination and disposal of radioactive wastes resulting from the TMI-2 accident has been prepared by staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

As to resumption of operation of Three Mile Island Unit 1, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has determined that satisfactory completion of certain short-term actions and resolution of various specified concerns are required to provide reasonable assurance that the facility can be operated without endangering the health and safety of the public. The Commission has also determined that certain long-term actions are required to be completed as promptly as practicable and that reasonable progress on the completion of such actions prior to restart is required in order to provide reasonable assurance that the facility can be operated safely over the long term. A hearing on the restart of TMI-1 by an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board began on October 15, 1980. The Commission's primary commitment is to a fair and thorough hearing and decision. Given this overriding imperative, it is the Commission's expectation that the Board will conduct the proceeding expeditiously. Ways of expediting the hearing are currently being considered. The decision on resumption of operation will be made by the Commission after the hearing is completed and the findings and conclusions of the Board are provided.

Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
As stated

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# Potential Impact of Licensee Default on Cleanup of TMI-2

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## U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Utility Finance Branch  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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