

February 24, 1981

Dear Sir:

I am writing with regard to the licensing of the proposed Allen's Creek Nuclear Plant in Wallis, Texas, which is presently approximately thirty-five (35) miles from Houston. During this past summer, a Gulf Coast hurricane pointed out a problem that I feel might have been overlooked in locating this plant in such a populated area.

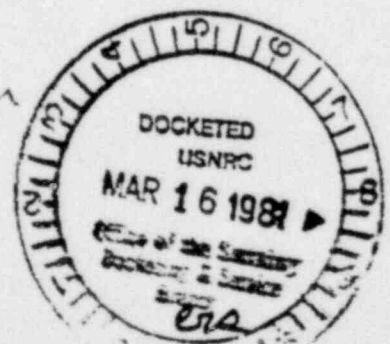
As early as ten hours before the arrival of this storm, the exit roads from Houston became extremely congested and several hours before the storm's arrival, they were virtually in a stop and go situation. This involved all of the side roads as well, in that several of us went into Sealy to observe the traffic jam that ran from Rosenberg to Bellville on Highway 36. In fact, the traffic formed a lane on the shoulder of the road in addition to the main thoroughfare. It was apparent to everyone that even the slightest disruption, such as a broken down vehicle, caused the entire "evacuation" to come to a complete stop.

What situation or reaction would develop if people were to find out that an accident has occurred and that Northwest winds were covering them with radiation? The highways in this area are extremely congested under normal circumstances and the possibility exists for a horrible tragedy even if a rumored leak of radioactivity occurred. My question is, are you aware of this event possibly taking place and who would be responsible if the worst occurred and tens of thousands died. I believe this question must be addressed and the responsibility be assumed by the initial licensing committee. After the plant is completed it will be too late.

Other options such as relocation and/or coal fired plants are available. I live within nine miles of the plant site and am now convinced we do not have to exchange energy for the possibility of a terrible catastrophe. There is no margin for error in that if a leak occurs, I feel certain the resulting evacuation situation will be much greater than that experienced this past summer.

Thank you,

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