

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555 March 18, 1981



Mr. Allen B. Colwell 126 F Street, SW Ephrata, Washington 98823

Dear Mr. Colwell:

This is in reply to your letter of March 5, 1981, to Commissioner John F. Ahearne expressing your concern about the costs associated with celays in placing nuclear power plants in operation.

Enclosed is a statement of March 13, 1981, by Chairman Joseph M. Hendrie on steps being taken by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to solve the problem of delays in licensing nuclear power plants. Chairman Hendrie stated his confidence that the actions taken and those to be taken will provide major improvements in licensing schedules without compromising the regulatory requirements for safety.

Sincerely,

Gary G. Zech Chief

Technical Support Branch

Planning & Program Analysis Staff Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure: As stated

