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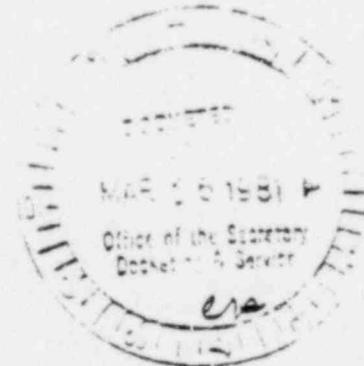
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

DOCKET NUMBER
74-123

MAR 11 1981



The Honorable John Warner
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of your constituent, Mr. J. B. Lankes, concerning the restart of the Three Mile Island Unit 1.

Unit 1 was down for refueling at the time of the accident at TMI-2 in late March 1979. On July 2, 1979, the Commission ordered that the facility remain in cold shutdown until further order of the Commission, stating that "the Commission presently lacks the requisite reasonable assurance that the... Licensee's Three Mile Island Unit No. 1 Facility... can be operated without endangering the health and safety of the public." Further, the Commission states that public hearings would be conducted to determine whether TMI-1 should be allowed to resume operation and, if so, under what conditions.

In a subsequent order issued August 9, the Commission established procedures for the hearing and decision on the issues. The hearings began before an NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on October 16, 1980. The current estimate is that a Board decision will not be made before late 1981. I am enclosing for your further information a memorandum that the NRC received from the TMI-1 Licensing Board on the status of the restart proceedings.

I hope this information is helpful in responding to your constituent.

Sincerely,

Carlton Kammerer
for Carlton Kammerer, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:
As stated

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