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1116 Ardmore Drive Lynchgurg, Virginia 24501-March 4, 1981

The Honorable John F. Ahearne, Chairman U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 1717 H Street NW Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Ahearne:

Since March, 1979, the undamaged unit 1 at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Station has remained shutdown. It is my understanding that modifications to unit 1 required after the TMI-2 accident have been completed, yet the NRC has not allowed Metropolitan Edison to place the unit back into operation. I believe the procrastination demonstrated by your agency is a disservice to all Americans.

The utility could save more than twelve million dollars each month by placing TMI-1 back into service. While TMI-1 is shutdown, the United States effectively buys that replacement power from OPEC at extremely high prices, and the customers served by Met Ed pay higher electricity bills.

I urge you to cut through the political red tape surrounding this matter and to direct the NRC staff to culminate the remaining debate concerning operation of TMI-1. President Reagan has remarked that now is not a time for business as usual in America; I believe the NRC can contribute to solving our national dilemma by clearing the way for startup of this facility.

I also urge the NRC to expedite licensing of newly completed nuclearpowered generating facilities that are ready to commence power operation but which have not received full power licenses from the NRC. Specifically, I call to your attention the Diablo Canyon-1, Salem-2, and Farley-2 facilities in California, New Jersey, and Alabama, respectively. I understand there is agreement among the technical review agencies involved that these plants can be safely operated <u>now</u>.

Thank you for considering my letter, and let's not delay obtaining the useful output from these plants any longer!

Sincerely yours,

J. Delano

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