

50-437



CHAIRMAN

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

March 31, 1981



COMMISSION
CORRESPONDENCE

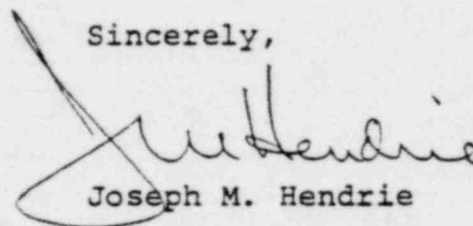
The Honorable Charles E. Bennett
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bennett:

This is in response to your letter dated March 4, 1981 regarding inclusion of Offshore Power Systems manufacturing license application in the Commission's proposed rule defining Three Mile Island accident related requirements for pending construction permit and manufacturing license applications.

The Commission has made no decision at this time on whether Offshore Power Systems manufacturing license application should be included in the proposed rule. The issue here is a technical and policy one -- whether the proposed rule's requirements for the capacity of reactor containments to withstand the effects of accident-generated hydrogen gas are sufficient when applied to floating nuclear power plants with relatively small containment volumes and design pressures. The Commission has decided to ask public comment on the current version of the proposed rule and to seek specific comment in the notice of proposed rulemaking on the inclusion of Offshore Power Systems application within the rule. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the proposed rulemaking.

Sincerely,



Joseph M. Hendrie

Enclosure: As stated

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