



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

July 26, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman Palladino  
Commissioner Gilinsky  
Commissioner Ahearne  
Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Asselstine

FROM: Carlton Kammerer, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF CONGRESSIONAL STAFF ON LASALLE

On Saturday, July 24, 1982, NBC-TV aired a news story on allegations of construction deficiencies and falsified documents related to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems at LaSalle. On the same day, we were informed by the staff of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment that Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.) would be interviewed by NBC on Monday, July 26, 1982. We were asked to provide a briefing for the Subcommittee staff on Sunday.

On Sunday, July 25, 1982, we participated in a conference call between the Subcommittee staff and the Region III administrator and staff. The Subcommittee staff was informed of the nature and circumstances of the allegations. Region III personnel also responded to questions from the Subcommittee staff. The Subcommittee staff is expected to brief Rep. Udall today in preparation for his interview.

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Docket Nos.: 50-373/374

Tyrone C. Fahner, Esquire  
Attorney General  
State of Illinois  
160 North La Salle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Mr. Fahner:

This letter is sent to acknowledge receipt of your Amendment to the Request for Show Cause Proceeding dated May 3, 1982, filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on behalf of the State of Illinois. This Amendment submitted additional allegations of reinforcing steel damage in the construction of La Salle County Station, Units 1 and 2 to further support the Illinois Request to Institute Show Cause Proceeding and for Other Relief filed March 24, 1982.

These additional allegations in your Amendment have also been submitted directly to the NRC by Ms. Bridget Little Rorem and Illinois Friends of the Earth. Enclosed please find our initial response to Ms. Bridget Little Rorem. As we noted in that response, fuel loading was completed on April 28, 1982, and completion of zero power testing is expected by about June 23, 1982. Also, we stated that continued integrity of the structures and piping associated with the allegations is not essential during this time because, even for the most severe incident which could be postulated, the radioactive releases would be insubstantial. Therefore, an immediate suspension of these activities is not warranted pending completion of our investigation of these additional allegations. In addition, we stated that the NRC staff expects to complete its ongoing investigation of these additional allegations prior to any NRC approval permitting activities beyond zero power testing at the La Salle Unit 1 facility, and that we will make our findings at that time. I will also consider your Request as amended, in any future licensing action I take with respect to the La Salle facility.

Sincerely,

*Harold R. Denton*

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc: See next page

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