

OCTOBER 19 1981

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Docket No. 50-289

Mr. Frank R. Siffrinn
 Manager-Secretary
 Lower Swatara Township
 Board of Commissioners
 30 Olmstead Drive
 Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057



Dear Mr. Siffrinn:

This is in response to your letter of August 18, 1981 to President Reagan in which you present the views of the Lower Swatara Township Board of Commissioners on the restart of TMI-1.

As you undoubtedly know, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ordered that TMI-1 remain in a shutdown condition until further order of the Commission, and that a public hearing precede restart. That hearing began on October 15, 1980 and the record was closed in June 1981. The record was subsequently reopened in September to take evidence on the matter of cheating on licensing examinations by reactor operators. An initial decision on management issues by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board which conducted the hearing was issued in August 1981, and the initial decision is expected in the remainder of the issues in November. The Commission is expected to act on restart after completion of the initial decision by the Board.

Parties to the hearing included several local, regional, and national organizations, local individuals, a local political subdivision, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. During the hearing, issues appropriate to considerations of public health and safety were addressed. Among these was whether TMI-1 could safely operate during decontamination and/or restoration operations at TMI-2. The matter of separation of TMI-1 from TMI-2 has been examined carefully, and releases from TMI-2 decontamination operations have been tightly limited. The Board has not yet issued an initial decision on this matter.

With regard to psychological impacts of restarting TMI-1, the Commission carefully considered whether this should be an issue in the restart proceedings. In its Order of December 5, 1980, as affirmed in its Order of September 17, 1981, the Commission decided that this matter was not to be litigated in this hearing. These Orders are enclosed for your information.

The principal concern of the NRC is the protection of the public health and safety. I assure you that the NRC has considered, and will continue to con-

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Mr. Frank R. Siffrinn

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sider, all pertinent matters affecting that concern in making any recommendation or decision on permitting TMI-1 to restart.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Thomas M. Novak
Thomas M. Novak, Assistant Director
for Operating Reactors
Division of Licensing

- Enclosures:
1. 12/5/80 Order
 2. 9/17/81 Order

*See previous 318 for concurrence

OFFICE	ORB#4:DL	C-ORB#4:DL	AD-ORB#4:DL	DD:DL			
SURNAME	HSilver/del	JStolz	TNovak	RPeople*			
DATE	10/16/81	10/8/81	10/19/81	10/9/81			

Mr. Frank R. Siffrin

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non-business correspondents, including political subdivisions, as to whether or not TMI-1 should be permitted to restart.

The principal concern of the NRC is the protection of the public health and safety. I assure you that the NRC has considered, and will continue to consider, all pertinent matters affecting that concern in making any recommendation or decision on permitting TMI-1 to restart.

Sincerely,

Darrell G. Eisenhut, Director
Division of Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

- 1. 12/5/80 Order
- 2. 9/17/81 Order

OFFICE	ORB#4:DL	C-ORB#4:DL	AD-OR:DL	DL:DL			
SURNAME	HSilver	JStal	TNovak	DEisenhut			
DATE	10/6/81	10/8/81	10/8/81	10/ /81			



Lower Swatara Township Board of Commissioners

30 Olmsted Drive, Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057
Phone (717) 944-7641

NRC

Charles E. Boyer, President
Malcolm E. Martin, Vice President
Franklin D. Cinn, Sr.
Frederick W. Wahl
George D. Hinkle, Jr.

August 18, 1981

U.S. President Ronald W. Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Lower Swatara Township Board of Commissioners respectfully requests your attention and acknowledgment of the impending status of the Three Mile Island nuclear facility.

As you are aware Mr. President, General Public Utilities, principal owner and operator of the plant, is currently seeking a license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to restart the Unit One reactor. Unit One is the functional and undamaged reactor which was taken off line shortly after the incident.

It is the opinion of the Board of Commissioners, duly elected representatives of the residents of Lower Swatara Township, that the Unit One reactor remain in an inactive state until decontamination and cleanup operations are completed to the Unit Two reactor. The physical and psychological impacts of the accident have yet to be determined. Cleanup and decontamination efforts are currently in process with projections of three to five years cited for ultimate completion.

To date, one can only speculate on the environmental impacts that cleanup activities will have on the mid-state area. Environmental safety and welfare of area residents and posterity must be the foremost priority considered by government prior to the licensing and restart of Unit One. To permit the restart of Unit One by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission represents a breach of faith and an acknowledgment by government that interests of the business community supersede those of the general public. It is apparent the moral conscience of a societal majority has negligently been disregarded in order to advance the special interests of an esoteric few.

It is with profound respect of the democratic processes afforded us that the Township protests the proposed action presently contemplated by General Public Utilities and potentially sanctioned by the Nuclear

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President Ronald W. Reagan
August 18, 1981
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Regulatory Commission. As a matter of vital interest to the entire nation the Township appeals for your support of an extremely sensitive and moralistic issue.

Sincerely,

LOWER SWATARA TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Frank R. Siffri
Frank R. Siffri
Manager-Secretary

FRS: lmw

Lower Swatara Township
Board of Commissioners
149 Spring Garden Drive
Lower Swatara Township, Pennsylvania 17057



U.S. President Ronald W. Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500