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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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December 31, 1981

Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino, Jr.
Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Chairman Palladino:

I want to take this opportunity to urge you to take the necessary steps to expedite your Commission's review of the investigation concerning the licensing of Diablo Canyon in California.

It is my assessment that the Brown Administration's actions to date involving this matter have been consistent with its unyielding position, to delay, and if possible prevent, the operation of Diablo Canyon and other needed nuclear facilities.

I share P G & E's concerns that the Governor's objections to this facility are without merit. It is my assessment that Governor Brown has taken an unreasonable posture in his efforts to circumvent the licensing of Diablo Canyon. Sources inform me that the Governor's principal objection relative to the Diablo Canyon plant revolves around P G & E's practice of allowing private consultants, approved by NRC, to show their initial reports to P G & E engineers for purposes of factual and statistical verifications.

I understand that this is a routine practice among respected consulting firms such as those employed by P G & E and that after this verification process is completed, the consultants deliver their sealed findings to the proper authorities at NRC. Legally, technically or morally, what is the problem here?

I would submit that Governor Brown's objections do not reflect a statesman's legitimate concerns for the public, but rather, they represent a demagogue's desperate attempts to resurrect his political ambitions in a candidacy for U.S. Senate. The Governor's ineptitude in fiscal, transportation and energy matters can only help to explain why he has consistently identified himself with the "no-growth, no new jobs" philosophical movement.

Although the operation of Diablo Canyon is imperative to the energy needs of Californians, this matter represents a concern with important national significance. This nation is currently suffering from a severe imbalance of trade, much of which is due to the importation of OPEC oil. Diablo Canyon and other nuclear facilities can and must offset that imbalance and restore energy independence to the people of this nation.

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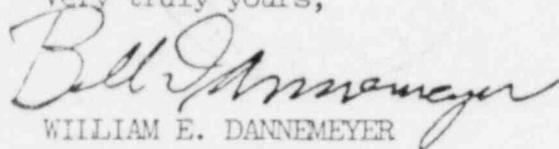
The operation of Diablo Canyon will reduce our daily imports of oil by 55,000 barrels (about 1%). It will reduce our negative balance of trade by \$880 million. Utilizing nuclear fuel will reduce air pollution caused by burning oil.

It is my hope that you will expedite the investigation of Diablo Canyon. Delays in this process have already cost consumers in excess of \$2.25 billion, and further delays are bound to be equally as unaffordable.

The people of California cannot afford the irrational posture of a Governor whose influence ought to be limited to that of any other over-ambitious politician.

I look forward to your response.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Dannemeyer".

WILLIAM E. DANNEMEYER
Member of Congress

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