

April 4, 1982

Mr. Ronald W. Herman
Licensing Project Manager
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulations
U.S. NRC
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

I have read much of the Draft Environmental Statement relating to Consumers Power's Plants I & II. I have followed the Midland OM proceedings and in fact was an accepted intervenor at one time. I have been studying documents as well as books and periodicals during the past four years and I find the DES severely lacking in its basis for many of its conclusions.

I would like to address one of my many concerns and that is the omission of any mention of a severe problem plaguing pressurized water reactors around the country. That problem, EMBRITTLEMENT, the premature aging of reactor containment vessels due to the neutron bombardment from the fissioning of uranium fuel at pressures of 2000 pounds per square inch. The occurrence of embrittlement has been known for years but the embrittlement process is occurring much faster than previously expected.

Thomas Murphy, supervisor of the NRC inquiry into the embrittlement problem is most concerned about reactor vessels that were built before 1973. (CMEJ Dec81-Jan 82) According to the Midland Daily News August 23, 1978, the reactors at the Midland Plant were built between 1968 and 1971 even though the first reactor was not delivered to the Midland site until Nov 19, 1974 and Unit 2 vessel was not installed until May of 1972.

Reactors, like those in Midland, have copper in the welds that hold the reactor vessel together. This copper is more susceptible to neutron bombardment damage than the steel walls of the reactor vessel. During a Loss of Cooling Accident (LOCA) the temperatures in the core rise. To cool the core, the Emergency Core Cooling

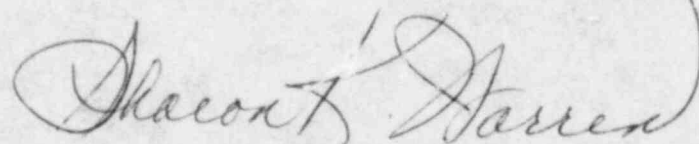
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System (ECCS) floods the core with cool water (40 to 90 degrees). Such a temperature drop could, according to some sources, cause a rupture of the reactor containment vessel releasing its radioactive contents. (CMEJ Dec 81-Jan 82).

I am very concerned that an environmental statement could be prepared by the NRC that ignores this critical information. The health and safety of my family and friends will be greatly affected if this kind of damage could occur to the reactors now installed in the Midland Nuclear Plant.

I demand that the NRC address this as well as other concerns of the citizens of the Saginaw Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sharon K. Warren". The signature is written in dark ink and is enclosed within a large, thin, hand-drawn oval.

Sharon K. Warren

636 Hillcrest

Midland, MI 48640

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