Union of GONCERNED GOIENTISTS

50-289

December 8, 1980

John Ahearne, Chairman
Peter Bradford
Victor Gilinsky
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: TMI-1 Restart Hearings, Docket No. 50-289

Gentlemen:

It is my understanding that the president of the Metropolitan Edison Company has sent a letter to you requesting that the Commission reconsider the provisions of its August 9, 1979 order and allow TMI-1 to restart before the Commission has reviewed the record of the ongoing hearings and determined that the plant is safe to operate. We have not yet received a copy of the letter, although I have been told that one is in the mail. I also understand from discussions with the General Counsel that the Commission has decided to treat the letter is a motion for reconsideration and to require responses from the parties within 10 days.

UCS requests an extension of time until December 18 to respond to the Met Ed letter. Under the circumstances, we believe it to be fully justified. First, Met Ed has filed its reconsideration motion approximately 15 months late, which hardly entitles it to complain of lack of expedition. Second, we are presently occupied on a daily basis in Harrisburg at the restart hearings, which leaves very little time to consider the letter and prepare a response. Third, as noted above, we have not yet received the letter.

Since I will be in Harrisburg, I request that you indicate your response to this request by telephoning my associate, William Jordan, who will relay the information to me.

Very truly yours,

Ellyn R. Weiss

cc: TMI service list

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