



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

PDR
50-344

Trojan Decommissioning Alliance
215 SE 9th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97214

Gentlemen:

I am pleased to respond to your telegram of October 20, 1978 to Chairman Hendrie concerning the design errors in the shear walls of the control building at the Trojan Nuclear Plant. Since this matter is currently pending before an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board whose decision may ultimately be reviewed by the Commissioners, including Chairman Hendrie, your telegram was referred to me for reply.

As mentioned above, the matter of operation of the Trojan facility prior to modifications to the control building is now being considered by an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. One of the issues before that Board is the manner in which the control building design errors may affect the seismic qualification of other safety-related equipment in the control building. Any decision by the Board with regard to interim operation of the facility will only be made after the equipment qualification issue as well as all other safety-related matters regarding the control building have been fully addressed. Accordingly, we have forwarded your telegram to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board for the Trojan hearing.

We appreciate your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John G. Davis".

John G. Davis
Acting Director
Office of Inspection
and Enforcement

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U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY
COMMISSION

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PMS JOSEPH M HENDRIE ✓

CHAIRPERSON

US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ATOMIC BLDG (202) 634-1459

717 H STREET NW

WASHINGTON DC 20555

NEWS OF SUBSTANDARD COOLANT SAFETY SYSTEMS AT THE TROJAN NUCLEAR POWER PLANT FURTHER DEMOLISHES PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY'S CONTENTION THAT IT CAN OPERATE TROJAN SAFELY. IT IS BAD ENOUGH THAT TROJAN FUNCTIONED FOR OVER TWO YEARS WITH A CONTROL BUILDING THAT REMAINS INSUFFICIENT TO MEET FEDERAL EARTHQUAKE STANDARDS.

NOW WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT, IN ADDITION, SAFETY SYSTEMS DESIGNED TO PROTECT AGAINST THE MOST SERIOUS POSSIBLE NUCLEAR ACCIDENTS AT TROJAN DO NOT MEET THE FEDERAL STANDARDS. PGE MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE THIS NUCLEAR PLANT. THE DEFECTIVE COOLANT PIPE SYSTEM AFFECTS NOT ONLY THE NUCLEAR REACTOR BUT ALSO THE SPENT FUEL POOL STORAGE AREA FOR NUCLEAR WASTE AT TROJAN. THE MORE WE LEARN ABOUT THE TROJAN PLANT, THE MORE WE DISCOVER THAT TROJAN'S QUALITY CONTROL SITUATION IS A SHODDY MESS WHICH COULD RESULT IN A CATASTROPHE. WE INSIST THAT THE GOVERNMENT FULFILL ITS RESPONSIBILITIES BY ORDERING AN INDEPENDENT AND COMPLETE INVESTIGATION OF TROJAN'S SAFETY SYSTEMS AND AYSMAL QUALITY CONTROL. PGE AND THE BECHTEL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY HAVE CLEARLY SHOWN THAT THEY CANNOT BE RELIED UPON TO INSPECT THEIR OWN FACILITIES, OR

TO RENDER IMPARTIAL JUDGMENTS AS TO THE ADEQUACY OF THEIR OWN WORK. EMERGING EVIDENCE HAS ALREADY PROVED THE PRESSING NEED FOR EXTENSIVE HEARINGS ON THIS MATTER. THE HISTORY OF THE ONGOING FIASCO AT TROJAN DEMANDS THAT AN INDEPENDENT AND FULL INVESTIGATION THOROUGHLY INSPECT TROJAN'S SAFETY SYSTEMS. WE DEMAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT PROTECT THE PUBLIC RATHER THAN THE NARROW INTERESTS OF PGE AND BECHTEL. THE GOVERNMENT'S TOLERATION OF INCOMPETENCE BY THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY CAN ONLY FURTHER DEEPEN THE PUBLIC'S DISTRUST OF NUCLEAR POWER.

TROJAN DECOMMISSIONING ALLIANCE

215 SE 9TH AVE, PORTLAND, OREGON 97214

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