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

FEB 1 0 1983

Ms. Frances C. Bowman 2617 Eaton Lewisburg Road Eaton, OH 45320

> In the Matter of Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company, et al. (William H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 1) Docket No. 50-358

Dear Ms. Bowman:

I have been requested to respond to your recent letter to Chairman Palladino regarding the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station located at Moscow, Ohio. The Commission appreciates receiving your views regarding the proceeding. The following will provide you with the current status of the matters discussed in your letter.

You state that you are opposed to reopening the public hearing concerning Cincinnati Gas and Electric Company's (CG&E) application for an operating license for the Zimmer facility. As you may know, one of the parties which participated in the public hearings, Miami Valley Power Project, is currently seeking to reopen the public hearings to consider CG&E's quality assurance program during construction of the Zimmer facility. This question is still pending before the Commissioners.

You also state that you are opposed to the Bechtel Power Corporation being engaged to conduct a third party audit of CG&E's management of the Zimmer project. On November 12, 1982, the Commission met to consider the status of the onoring construction verification and corrective actions being performed by CG&L at the Zimmer facility. The Commission concluded that safety-related construction, including rework activities, should be suspended, effective immediately, until there is reasonable assurance that future construction activities will be conducted in accordance with Commission requirements. Accordingly, on that date it issued an Order immediately suspending safetyrelated construction activities at the Zimmer site and requiring that a number of specific steps be taken prior to authorization by the Regional Administrator for resumption of the halted work. These included an independent review of the management of the Zimmer project, the submittal of an updated comprehensive plan to verify the quality of construction and the submission of a comprehensive plan for the continuation of construction.

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CG&E has responded that they consent to the requirements of the Commission's Order and are not requesting a hearing on the Order. They have taken the first step toward compliance with the Order by submitting documentation to the Regional Administrator in support of their selection of Bechtel Power Corporation to act as the independent reviewer of the management of the project. The Regional Administrator has solicited and received comments from officials of the City of Cincinnati, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel and a number of other organizations and it ividuals who have expressed an interest in the Zimmer facility regarding the selection of Bechtel Power Corporation. A public meeting was held on January 5, 1983 in Cincinnati to hear additional public comments on the selection of an independent auditor. The selection is pending before the Regional Administrator and he is expected to issue a decision in the near future.

Sincerely,

Guy H. Cunningham, III Executive Legal Director

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