10/01/82

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

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PHILADELPHIA ELECTRIC COMPANY

Docket Nos. 50-352 50-353

(Limerick Generating Station, Units 1 and 2)

> NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO DELAWARE'S MOTION TO STRIKE TESTIMONY OF JOHN LEHR AND MOTION TO STRIKE TESTIMONY OF DR. MICHAEL T. MASNIK

### I. INTRODUCTION

On September 27, 1982, pursuant to the Board's August 23, 1982 Memorandum and Order (Providing for Filings Relating to Testimony On Supplementary Cooling Water System Contentions), Intervenor Del-Aware delivered to the Staff its motions to strike the testimony of Staff witnesses John Lehr and Dr. Michael T. Masnik. As set forth below, the NRC Staff opposes these motions.

## II. DISCUSSION

Del-Aware argues that the testimony of Mr. Lehr and Dr. Masnik should be stricken since it is "misleading," "unqualified," and "inappropriate." The Staff does not believe these characterizations to be either accurate or supported by the pre-filed testimony.

P DESIGNATED ORIGINAL

The NRC Rules of Practice state the following with regard to the admissibility of evidence:

Only relevant, material, and reliable evidence which is not unduly repetitious will be admitted. Immaterial or irrelevant parts of an admissible document will be segregated and excluded so far as is practicable. 10 C.F.R. § 2.743(c).

The prepared testimony of Mr. Lehr and Dr. Masnik is relevant, material and reliable with regard to the issues to be heard at the hearing to begin on October 4, 1982. Mr. Lehr and Dr. Masnik are being presented to this Board as experts with respect to the issues involving the Point Pleasant Diversion. Although the Commission's Rules of Practice do not expressly provide the standard for judging whether a prospective witness is qualified as an expert, the Appeal Board recently addressed the question 1/ and concluded that the standard incorporated in Federal Rule 702 is a suitable test for determining whether a particular witness may be qualified as an expert. Under this standard a witness is qualified as an expert by "knowledge, skill, training, experience or education" to testify "[i]f scientific, technical or other specialized knowledge will assist the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue."2/ Under these standards, Mr. Lehr and Dr. Masnik's professional qualifications, appended to their testimony, demonstrate that each qualifies as an expert witness. Their testimony is unquestionably directed and relevant to the issues in this proceeding. It is

2/ Id. at 475.

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<sup>1/</sup> Duke Power Company (William B. MCGuire Nuclear Station, Units 1 and 2) ALAB-669, 15 NRC 453 (March 1982).

not repetitious and will assist the Board in reaching determinations on the pending issues. Thus, at most, Del-Aware's concern is over the weight to be accorded to this testimony, rather than to the fundamental requirements for its receipt.

# III. CONCLUSION

Accordingly, the Board should deny Del-Aware's motion to strike.

Respectfully submitted,

Aner P. Hodgdon

Ann P. Hodgdon Counsel for NRC Staff

Dated in Bethesda, Maryland this 1st day of October 1982

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# NOTICE OF APPEARANCE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned attorney herewith enters an appearance in the above-captioned matter. In accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 2.713(a), the following information is provided:

Name: Joseph Rutberg

Address: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of the Executive Legal Director Washington, DC 20555

Telephone Number: (301) 492-7488 Admissions: Supreme Court of Pennsylvania District of Columbia Court of Appeals Name of Party: NRC Staff

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Rutberg

Assistant Chief Hearing Counsel/Antitrust Counsel

Dated in Bethesda, Maryland this 1st day of October 1982

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#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO DELAWARE'S MOTION TO STRIKE TESTIMONY OF JOHN LEHR AND MOTION TO STRIKE TESTIMONY OF DR. MICHAEL T. MASNIK" and "NOTICE OF APPEARANCE" in the above captioned proceeding have been served this date in-hand on the persons identified below by an asterisk. Service will be made upon the remaining persons by deposit in the United States mail, first class, or as indicated by double asterisk through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system this 1st day of October 1982:

Lawrence Brenner, Esq., Chairman\*(2) Administrative Judge U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. Richard F. Cole\* Administrative Judge U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. Peter A. Morris\* Administrative Judge U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Mr. Frank R. Romano Air and Water Pollution Patrol 61 Forest Avenue Ambler, PA 19002

Judith A. Dorsey, Esq. Limerick Ecology Action 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1632 Philadelphia, PA 19107 Mr. Edward G. Bauer, Jr. Vice President & General Counsel Philadelphia Electric Company 2301 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19101

Troy B. Conner, Jr., Esq. Mark J. Wetterhahn, Esq. Conner and Wetterhahn 1747 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

Mr. Marvin I. Lewis 6504 Bradford Terrace Philadelphia, PA 19149

James M. Neill, Esq. Associate Counsel for Del-Aware Box 511 Dublin, PA 18917

Joseph H. White III 8 North Warner Ave. Bryn Mawr, PA. 19010 Environmental Coalition on Nuclear Power Dr. Judith H. Johnsrud, Co-Director 433 Orlando Avenue State College, PA 16801

Thomas Gerusky, Director Bureau of Radiation Protection Dept. of Environmental Resources 5th Floor, Fulton Bank Building Third and Locust Streets Harrisburg, PA 17120

Director Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Basement, Transportation & Safety Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Robert L. Anthony Friends of the Earth of the Delaware Valley 103 Vernon Lane, Box 186 Moylan, PA 19065

Alan J. Nogee The Keystone Alliance 3700 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19104

Charles W. Elliott, Esq. 123 N. 5th Street, Suite 101 Allentown, PA 18102

W. Wilson Goode Managing Director City of Philadelphia Philadelphia, PA 19107

Secretary\*\* U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ATTN: Chief, Docketing & Service Br. Washington, D.C. 20555 Walter W. Cohen Consumer Advocate Office of Attorney General 1425 Strawberry Square Harrisburg, PA 17120

Robert W. Adler Assistant Counsel Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, DER 505 Executive House P. O. Box 2357 Harrisburg, PA 17120

Steven P. Hershey, Esq. Law Center North Central Beury Building 3701 North Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19140

Robert J. Sugarman, Esq.\* Sugarman and Denworth Suite 510 North American Building 121 South Broad Street Philadelphia, PA 19107

Donald S. Bronstein, Esq. The National Lawyers Guild Third Floor 1425 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19102

Atomic Safety & Licensing Board\*\* U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Atomic Safety & Licensing Appeal Panel\*\* U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

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Ann P. Hodgdon Counsel for NRC Staff