

SOUTHERN OHIO DISTRICT

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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October 18, 1982

Mr. Nunzio J. Palladino, Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Palladino:

This letter is being sent to you at the request of the Executive Committee of the District Board of Southern Ohio District, Church of the Brethren. They have approved its contents and ask me to forward it to you.

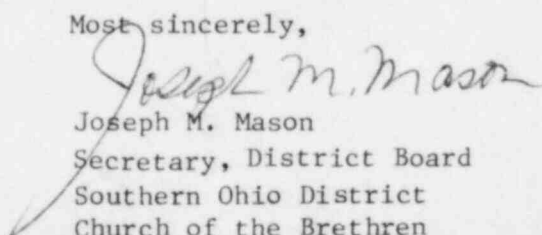
In behalf of the residents of the communities surrounding the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station near Cincinnati, Ohio, and in our concern relevant to the larger ethical issue of utility and government accountability, we request that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission require their Region III offices to hold public hearings previous to issuing an operating license to the Zimmer Nuclear Station.

The following quotes and statements cause us to express our concern:

- (1) Representative Morris Udall, Chairman of the House Oversight Committee of the NRC, and the House Insular Affairs Committee, "Zimmer is a model case of how not to build a nuclear power plant;"
- (2) Mr. Victor Gilinsky, senior member, NRC, "In my experience I don't think we've run into one plant where the gaps in Quality Assurance are as large as we've got at Zimmer;"
- (3) Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff, "...one of five plants in the U. S. with a systematic breakdown of the Quality Assurance program;"
- (4) past history of the Region III Commission reveals a cover-up of an emergency at the Davis Besse Nuclear Power Station, which had it been known, would have prevented the accident at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Station. This same Commission plans to license the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station under questionable circumstances;
- (5) according to the wind wheel studies (siting data) of this plant, radioactive releases, whether routine or large, would spread over well populated areas. Emergency evacuation of the population in any orderly fashion within a safe time would be impossible; and
- (6) public hearings are provided for in the Atomic Energy Act.

It is the general public which suffers from any mis-judgment, mis-management or cover-up. As advocates for our members and others in the community, we request, at least, that the community be heard concerning the licensing of the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station.

Most sincerely,


Joseph M. Mason
Secretary, District Board
Southern Ohio District
Church of the Brethren

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