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September 22, 1982

Gary J. Edles, Chairman
Dr. John H. Buck
Dr. Lawrence R. Quarles
Dr. Reginald L. Gotchy
Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: METROPOLITAN EDISON CO. (Three Mile
Island Nuclear Station, Unit No. 1)
Docket No. 50-289-SP (Emergency Planning)

Dear Judges Edles, Buck, Quarles and Gotchy:

In the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Response to Appeal Board Memorandum and Order dated June 29, 1982" (July 13, 1982), the Commonwealth promised to distribute copies of selected pages from the Agricultural Extension Service Disaster Handbook to the Appeal Board and the parties to this proceeding "as soon as available." These agricultural "fact sheets" were to be distributed to farmers with livestock herds in the TMI-1 plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone. The purpose of this letter is to explain the delay in the distribution of these materials.

The Commonwealth originally intended to reproduce agricultural "fact sheets" directly from the "Disaster Handbook for Extension Agents" prepared by the Cooperative Extension Service, Pennsylvania State University, in cooperation with the Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This decision was based on the Commonwealth's review of a draft of the Disaster Handbook, which was in a "fact sheet" format. This format was judged to be appropriate for distribution to farmers who are members of the general public.

Subsequent to the Commonwealth's review of this initial draft, the personnel responsible for preparation of the Handbook changed, and the format of the Handbook changed substantially. This fact was not known to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture until late August of this year, when camera-ready copy from the Handbook was made available. A review of the new portion of the Handbook relevant to nuclear power plant incidents indicated that it was no longer appropriate for distribution to farmers who are members of the general public. The Extension Service official responsible for coordinating the revised version of the Handbook

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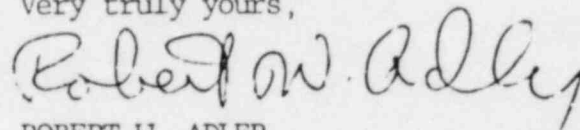
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explained that the new version was written for college graduates, and would require substantial editing and further explanation and guidelines in order to be of substantial use to most farmers. As members of the Appeal Board noted during oral argument, a public information brochure must represent a compromise between detail of information and clarity to members of the general public.

As a result of these changed circumstances, the Commonwealth has decided to prepare its own agricultural brochure for distribution to farmers in the TMI-1 plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone. This brochure will be developed on the basis of information in the Disaster Handbook as well as the Commonwealth's emergency plans and other sources of information. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's current schedule is to have a final version of this brochure available by the end of October, 1982. Camera-ready copy will be distributed to the Appeal Board and the service list as soon as available.

The Commonwealth apologizes to the Board and the parties for the delay in this matter. The decision to prepare a new brochure is based on the Commonwealth's desire to disseminate information that will be most useful to farmers in the TMI vicinity.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT W. ADLER
Assistant Counsel

cc: TMI-1 Service List
Hon. Penrose Hallowell, Secretary,
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
DeWitt C. Smith, Jr., Director, PEMA
Robert Furrer
Ralph J. Hippert.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKETED
USNRC

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

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In the Matter of:

METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY,
(Three Mile Island Nuclear
Station, Unit No. 1)

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Docket No. 50-289
(Restart)

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