

4-19-83

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Daniel C. May M.D.
2922 Risdale Av.
Lansing, Mi., 48910

PROPOSED RULE PR-Misc Notice

48 FR 12619
(Policy of Statement on Regionalization)

Secretary to the Commission,
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C.

'83 APR 22 10:16

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my strong concern and hesitation regarding the proposed NRC plan to regionalize its functions. In particular, I am concerned with the transfer of certain licensing authority for operating power reactors from the headquarters to the regional offices. I am in accord with Commissioner Asselstine's concerns with regard to the transfer of such functions.

Speaking as a physician, I think it prudent to offer some additional advice in reference to my own experience in dealing with similar difficult administrative decisions. First, that structural conservatism and rigorous testing of highly touted new bureaucratic structures be considered a first principle. Second, that this is especially true in bureaucratic structures enjoined in part, with maintaining a high degree of public visibility and trust. Clearly, there is significant internal dissent which is not merely focused on personal inconvenience secondary to the proposed moves. In grappling with such proposals, it has been far more useful in my experience to actively poll and elicit the views of the second and third rank workers for their views via a quasi-democratic process and dialogue, than to merely 'test' the new 'streamlined structure' in public meetings and high level debates.

Forgive me for intruding, but I am concerned with the viability and integrity of your organization. Perhaps computer links between your offices will some day obviate some of these concerns?

Yours in service,
Daniel C. May

Daniel C. May M.D.

DS09

add: Edward Blackwood
6113 MNBB

4/26/83 PD

(23)

SECRET NUMBER
NOTED RULE

PR-Miss. Notice

48 FR 12619

Policy Statement on Regionalization

3260 Dogwood Dr.
Binghamton NY 13903

'83 APR 22 P4:33

Secretary to the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm.
Wash. D.C. 20555

re: regionalization of NRC functions

Dear Sir ,

I want to express my opposition to the NRC draft plan that would shift some powers to local control. I am especially concerned with the plan to regionalize licensing and enforcement activities.

Where would the technical expertise come from at the state level? And where would the responsibility come from across state lines when, as is quite common, state authority sides with state utilities for short-term interests? Living as I do across the border from PA, I am especially concerned with that in light of Three Mile Island.

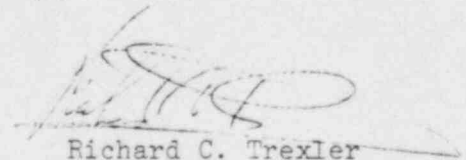
These irresponsible suggestions and plans certainly reflect a general policy of the administration, but I would point out that nuclear policy is not the same thing as licensing, for example, workers safety at a coal mine.

You will recall the line from Tom Lehrer's record: "We'll try to stay serene and Calm, When Alabama Gets the Bomb."

I can only read this recommendation as both giving Alabama (ie its powerful utilities) the bomb and winning the support for the Republican Party of this important group of investors by relieving it of overview by the national government.

This is not in the interest of the American people at large. If a national government has no other task, it is to protect the lives of its citizens. I fail to see how distribution of power will do that.

Cordially,



Richard C. Trexler

DS09
add: Edward Blackwood
6113 MNBB

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