

The Seattle Times

TELEPHONE (206) 464-0000

*Handwritten initials: H, C, M, JK*

May 13, 1977

FABRIZIO AVENUE NORTH AND JOHN STREET  
P.O. OFFICE BOX 75  
SEATTLE WASHINGTON 98111

Mr. Samuel J. Chilk  
Secretary  
United States Nuclear  
Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Chilk:

Thank you for your prompt response to my letter request-  
ing permission for Seattle Times photographers to record the pro-  
ceedings of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board hearing May 11  
in Seattle.

I am disappointed you refused the request. However, I  
find your indication that the commission intends to take a fresh  
look at your policy to be encouraging.

The Times feels strongly that it has an obligation and  
right under the First Amendment to inform the public. That public  
includes those persons who cannot attend rule-making hearings as  
well as those who do attend. We cannot carry out our duty to inform  
the public fully unless we have the right to photograph such sessions.  
As I indicated earlier, we would be able to do the photographing  
during the hearings in an unobtrusive manner and with existing  
lighting.

I would appreciate your keeping me informed of any changes  
in the commission's policy of excluding photographers from hearings.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Handwritten signature of W. Mason Sizemore*

W. MASON SIZEMORE  
Assistant Managing Editor

5/16 - To OGC for Appropriate Action. Distribution: Chairman, Cmrs, PE, OCA, PA, SECY  
EDO. Original to Docket. 77-0684