

*Camera policy*

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October 22, 1975

Mr. Michael Kettenring  
WSM-TV  
P. O. Box 100  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Dear Mr. Kettenring:

I appreciated the opportunity to talk with Don Scott yesterday concerning the Commission's policy on camera coverage of its quasi-judicial licensing hearings.

As I indicated, we fully appreciate the desire of television stations to report on these hearings, and we attempt to be as cooperative as possible in assisting TV newsmen by making photographic arrangements in the hearing room before and after hearing sessions and during recesses.

However, the NRC follows the policy of the Federal Courts and many other Federal regulatory agencies of prohibiting camera coverage of the hearings while they are in session. I would add that we frequently use Federal Courtrooms for these hearings. These are legal proceedings, witnesses are under oath, and the decision can be appealed to the Federal Courts. We believe our policy is consistent with the requirement to conduct an orderly proceeding.

This policy, which has been in effect since the AEC first began holding hearings in the early 1960s, was reaffirmed by the NRC Commissioners shortly after the NRC came into being earlier this year.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

*JAH*

John A. Harris, Director  
Office of Public Affairs

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