Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.

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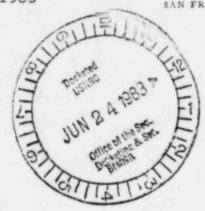
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 1717 H Street, N.W., 11th Floor Washington, D.C. 20555

Nunzio J. Palladino, Chairman Victor Gilinsky, Commissioner Thomas M. Roberts, Commissioner John F. Ahearne, Commissioner James Asselstein, Commissioner



Gentlemen:

The Commission is apparently considering a decision to allow restart of the Three Mile Island-1 nuclear reactor before it resolves serious questions concerning the integrity and competence of the TMI management and staff. The Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. (NRDC) firmly opposes such a move.

The Commission simply cannot have reasonable assurance that TMI-1 will be operated safely without assurance that the management and staff are competent. It is a fundamental tenet of any licensing scheme that crucial questions affecting the ultimate findings to be made by the licensing body be resolved before the license is granted, not after. This process is especially important in the present case, where allowing reactor operation by a team whose integrity is under question would further jeopardize the health and safety of the public.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Finamore Project Attorney

Dr. Thomas B. Cochran Senior Staff Scientist

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