



JAMES B. COULTER  
SECRETARY

BUREAU OF MINES  
ENERGY OFFICE  
POWER PLANT SITING PROGRAM

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
ENERGY ADMINISTRATION  
TAWES STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
ANNAPOLIS 21401  
(301) 269-2261

May 26, 1982

Mr. Oliver D. T. Lynch, Jr.  
Three Mile Island Program Office  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Lynch:

We appreciate your letter of May 19, 1982 regarding the arrangement of a meeting with our respective contractors who are studying the socioeconomic impacts to the Chesapeake Bay resulting from a discharge of TMI processed water to the Susquehanna River. We agree that a meeting to discuss specific data sources relevant to the studies would be beneficial to both parties. Sharing data sources would eliminate, or at least, reduce duplicating our data compilation efforts.

Regarding the example discussion topics you presented with your letter, I would like to make a few suggestions. First, several of the topics relate to our methodological approach rather than to the data sources we intend to use. For example, Question #3 deals with the methods we plan to use to estimate the economic value of recreational activities. We are willing to provide any data source information you may desire but we feel our discussions should be limited to sharing data. In this way we can preserve the independent nature of our respective studies as we agreed to do at our February 24 meeting.

Second, our technical experts will not be prepared on June 15 to respond effectively to your specific methodological questions. By June 15, our study will not have progressed to a point where we are evaluating economic impacts. According to our study schedule presented on page 2 of the Scope of Work, we will have completed Tasks 1 and 2, (characterizing the resources at risk) by June 15, and we will be engaged in Tasks 3 and 4 (compiling and evaluating case studies). We do not plan to address specific economic impact issues until September at the earliest.

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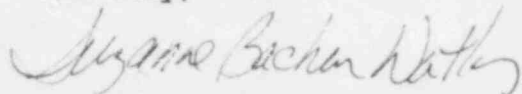
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Third, our joint recognition of the need to preserve the independent nature of our studies, led us to agree in our February 24 meeting to arrange interactions with our respective contractors only after we had formed our initial assessments. To discuss aspects of our study other than data sources would be inappropriate at this time because we are in the data collecting phase of the project and, to date, we have not made any initial economic assessments.

Finally, prior to scheduling a meeting, it would be useful if you provided a specific list of data source questions which you would like to discuss. For example, part of Question #1 in your attached list of discussion topics ("Is there information on the restaurant sector in the Bay area?") relates to data sources. We are willing to respond to this question and to ones of similar nature. In fact, our presentation on May 20 included a summary of our data source information for the commercial fishery and recreational resources at risk. I hope your attendance at this presentation was useful for your purposes.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future to further plan the format and agenda for our next meeting.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Bachur Watkins  
Associate Administrator,  
Socioeconomics

SBW:ph  
cc: Peter Dunbar