



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

OFFICE OF THE  
COMMISSIONER

May 29, 1984

MEMORANDUM TO THE CHAIRMAN

SUBJECT: PERFORMANCE OF REGION IV

My recent trip to Fort St. Vrain has reinforced my concerns about the performance of Region IV. Fort St. Vrain was in poorer shape than any reactor I had visited in recent years. Maintenance and housekeeping had been neglected for a long time, discipline was poor.

It was apparent that NRC inspectors and regional support had been pulled away from the operating plants to help get Waterford and Comanche Peak into operation. I am very much concerned that this has affected safety at operating plants, without the Commission even being informed. Was this done on your instruction? ← Q1

Finally, I have been informed that senior staff members have been subjected to strong pressure from Congress -- in the form of frequent and repeated telephone calls -- to get Waterford licensed. Are you aware of this? ← Q2

  
Victor Gilinsky

cc: Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Asselstine  
Commissioner Bernthal  
SECY

Vic: The answer to both of your questions is no. The Commission has received information on several occasions about the EDO devoting additional resources to Waterford and Comanche Peak, and I do not believe the Commission has objected. I am not aware of any indication that this has affected safety at operating plants, but I think the EDO should comment directly on this point, as well as on your statement that the senior staff has been subjected to strong pressure from Congress to get Waterford licensed. By copy, I would like the EDO to reply.

cc: Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Asselstine  
Commissioner Bernthal  
OCA  
SECY  
EDO ✓

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PDR COMMS NRCC  
CORRESPONDENCE PDR

*NJP 5/30/84*



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*Victor Gilinsky*  
Victor Gilinsky

cc: Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Asselstine  
Commissioner Bernthal  
SECY

Vic: You raise an excellent point, although I believe that the concern about drawing resources away from operating plants applies to all of the Regions, and not just to Region IV. In fact, in my recent visits to two regions, regional staff has been quite candid about this concern, and have agreed that the emphasis on NTOL's is having a significant effect on our ability to assure safety at the operating plants. I think that we should have a meeting on this subject with IE and the Regional Administrators.

cc: Chairman Palladino  
Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Bernthal

*James V. Asselstine*  
5-31-84