Mr. Robert J. Sugarman, Esq.<br>Sugarman, Denworth \& Hellegers<br>16th Floor, Center Plaza<br>101 North Broad Street<br>Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mr. Sugarman:
I am in receipt of your letter to me of May 23, 1984. Your letter requests that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission advise the Philadelphia Electric Co. (PECO) of a need to supplement its pending application for an operating license io provide alternative sources of supplemental cooling water for the Limerick facility. As you are aware, both of PECO's applications, for a construction permit for the Limerick facility and for an operating license for that facility, described a supplement cooling water system for the Limerick facility for consideration by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. That supplemental cooling water system was evaluated at the construction parmit phase and is currently being evaluated as part of the operating license proceeding. Your letter suggests that the Commission should direct PECO to provide alternatives to the supplemental cooling water system presently under consideration. This is essentially a repetition $u$, the request contained in the "Application of Del-AWARE Unlimited, et al. under Section $2.206^{\prime \prime}$ filed by you with the Commission of December 16, 1983, on behalf of Del-WARE and to which I responded in my "Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206" dated on April 25, 1984. ${ }^{1}$

In my Decision, I determined that action on the part of NRC would be appropriate to review alternatives to the currently proposed supplemental cooling water system if the current proposal should for some reason fail and if PECO should then identify an alternative proposal to supply supplemental cooling water for the Limerick facility. I noted that any alternative would then have to be reviewed in the same fashion as the original proposal was examined by the agency prior to the issuance of a construction permit. In my Decision, I further noted that PECO's current actions appear clearly directed at insuring completion of the presently proposed supplemental cooling water system and that concerns that the project may not be complete and consequently that alternative sources of cooling water may be required for the Limerick facility are thus premature and speculative. On this basis, I declined to commit the agency's resources to examine such questions given their

[^0]speculative nature. ${ }^{2}$ There is nothing in your letter which would cause me to reconsider this question. You should be advised that the Commission has declined to review my Decision and, accordingly, that Decision became final agency action on May 21, 1984.

With respect to your request for documents, many staff documents are routinely placed in the Public Document Room and would be available for your review there. Additional document requests may be appropriate in individual adjudicatory proceedings pursuant to 10 CFR Part 2, "Rule of Practice For Domestic Licensing Proceedings" or under the more general provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. See 10 CFR Part 9.

With respect to your letter of May 23, 1984 directed to Ms. Ann Hodgden, Esq. a copy of which was appended to your letter to me, I note that that letter contains a number of characterizations by you of the substance of a bricfing given to the Commission on April 24, 1984, by the NRC staff. I do not share your belief that the staff mischaracterized the issues. The staff routinely briefs the Commission in a professional and objective manner assessing the facts as it sees them. This was done in this instance. I can understand that there may be differences of opinion with respect to the issues at hand. However, I believe your charges with respect to the presentation of the staff are unfounded.

Sincerely,

## Orifinal Sixat by H. R. Benten

Harold R. Denton, Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
cc: See next page

[^1]*See previous concurrence

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| $06 / / 84$ | $06 / / 84$ | $06 / / 84$ | $06 / / 84$ | $06 / / 84$ | $06 / / 84$ |

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