

Aug. 15, 1984

Judge Anna W. Smith
 USNRC
 Washington, D.C.

50-454 02
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Dear Sir:

'84 AGO 28 P1:25

As a rate-paying citizen of Rockford, I am concerned that the Byron Nuclear Plant will go on line before it has been proven, within human limits, to be safe.

To say the least I am puzzled, and disappointed by the performance of the NRC staff. It appears they wish to avoid looking bad for failures in compliance along the way, by supporting the Com-Ed case now, even in the face of serious allegations about plant safety still surfacing.

Every day that goes by, as testimony goes on I become more and more convinced that Byron is just not well or safely built. If it were so it would have been established by now.

I believe the testimony of plant workmen willing to face Com-Ed harassment, should be heard as part of these current hearings, especially if the adequacy of the NRC

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investigation is called into question.

Further, we in northern Illinois know that a 10% rate hike rides on the outcome of these hearings, even when we have had to suffer 5 hikes in the past 7 years. It is acutely evident that we are paying for Com-Ed mis-management and mistakes in judgment. It appears that altho additional electricity is NOT needed in the foreseeable future, we will be made to pay for it because it is a convenience to Com-Ed and a boon to their stock holders.

You and your license team are the only avenue we have to seek protection from a greedy, utility monolith. I urge you to leave no stone unturned in your search for the truth. Our economic and environmental life depend on it. Thank you.

Sincerely -

James C. Pemble
1740 Cumberland
Rockford 61103