



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

RELATED CORRESPONDENCE

December 17, 1984

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The Honorable Peter H. Kostmayer
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20555

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Dear Congressman Kostmayer:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 1984, in which you asked two questions arising out of the ongoing Nuclear Regulatory Commission's public hearings on emergency preparedness in the areas around the Philadelphia Electric Company's Limerick Generating Station.

You first asked "is it standard NRC policy to prohibit the taking of pictures of the hearing proceeding?"

No. "It is NRC policy to allow both still and motion picture photography of ongoing adjudicatory hearings provided that the photographer remains in a fixed position and uses available room light. That notwithstanding, it has frequently been the practice of the administrative judges of our Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards to be less restrictive by allowing some use of supplemental lighting including the sparing use of flash and spotlight lighting. However, it is made clear to the news media that if the use of supplemental lighting disturbs the participants in the proceeding the hearing judge will enforce the formal policy. Naturally, the judicious use of supplemental lighting is dependent upon the cooperation of the photographer and other factors such as the size of the hearing room which may ameliorate the concentration of the light, and the repetitive nature of the casting of such light on any individual participant.

Secondly, you asked whether, due to the last minute change of location of the "limited appearance" public hearing on November 15, 1984, an attempt would be made to schedule another such opportunity for the public to participate in the hearing with adequate advance notice and hopefully in the evening.

At the end of the November 15 hearing, which was in the evening and ended about 10:00 p.m., Judge Helen F. Hoyt, the Chairperson of that Board, said that she would consider another such hearing opportunity and that when a suitable location and date in the schedule had been determined it would be announced publicly.

An additional public meeting was held on Thursday, December 13, 1984, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the Fire Company Hall at Vine and Rice Streets in the town of Stowe, PA.

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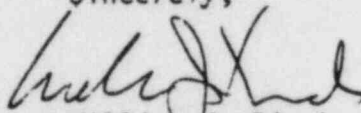
Congressman Peter H. Kostmayer

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We have made a public announcement of that schedule. A copy of that announcement is enclosed.

If I can be of any further help in this matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,



William J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations

Enclosure: Press Release No. I-84-132

cc: Limerick Service List

Limerick Hearing Service List

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Judge Richard F. Cole
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NO: I-84-132
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December 3, 1984

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD TO HOLD ADDITIONAL PUBLIC APPEARANCE SESSION IN STOWE, PA DECEMBER 13, 1984, ON LIMERICK GENERATING STATION EMERGENCY PLANNING ISSUES

The NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board conducting hearings on offsite emergency preparedness at the Philadelphia Electric Company's Limerick Generating Station in Limerick, PA has scheduled a public meeting Thursday, December 13, 1984, between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Stowe, PA to give the public an opportunity to express its views on offsite emergency planning at the Limerick site.

The meeting will be held at the Stowe Fire Company located on Vine and Rice Streets in Stowe.

The Board decided to schedule this session after a number of persons who had requested an opportunity to speak during earlier public appearance sessions November 15 and 16, 1984 were not heard because time allotted for these sessions expired before they could be called. The Board has a list of those people who did not make an appearance on November 15 and 16 because of insufficient time. These people will be the first to be called to speak during the evening session on December 13, 1984.

Other persons wishing to make a statement before the Board on the evening of December 13, 1984 can do so by registering with the Board's law clerk that evening.

The Board will also accept written statements from members of the public. These can be mailed to:

Judge Helen F. Hoyt
Chairperson, Atomic Safety and Licensing
Board (Limerick)
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

(more)

December 3, 1984

The public appearance session at Stowe is a federal judicial proceeding and will be conducted as if it were being held in a courtroom. No signs or demonstrations will be permitted in the hearing room.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: The NRC permits the use of still, motion picture and television cameras during its public licensing proceedings, provided that the cameras are operated from a fixed position and they use only available room light. It is Commission practice, however, to use Federal or state courtrooms whenever possible, and, in such cases, the policy of those courts will be observed with regard to the admission of cameras.