



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

FEB 21 1985

Ms. Mary Bye, Convener  
Working Group and Stewardship of the  
Environment  
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the  
Society of Friends (Quakers)  
R.D. 4  
Church School Road  
Doylestown, Pennsylvania 18901

Dear Ms. Bye:

This is in response to your letter of December 19, 1984, to Chairman Palladino which forwarded the "minute" from the Working Group on Stewardship of the Environment. The "minute" expressed concern regarding the safety of every stage of the nuclear fuel cycle and requested a moratorium on licensing nuclear reactors until all aspects of the handling of radioactive materials have been satisfactorily resolved.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), in its review of applications for licenses to construct and operate nuclear power plants, is required to consider those measures necessary for the protection of the public's health and safety and the environment and to assure proper regard for antitrust laws and policies. To carry out its responsibilities, the NRC staff conducts detailed reviews of each nuclear power plant application.

In conducting its detailed reviews, the NRC: (1) establishes and reviews qualification and training requirements for all operating personnel; (2) establishes and reviews design criteria; (3) establishes guidance for, and reviews the inspection process for the construction and operation of nuclear power plants; (4) establishes acceptance criteria for the Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) and other structures, systems and components and reviews all safety-related structures, systems and components; (5) monitors the operating history of operating nuclear power plants; (6) establishes requirements for, and reviews engineered safety features designed to mitigate the consequences of postulated accidents; and (7) establishes requirements for, and continuously monitors the routine releases of radioactive materials from operating nuclear power plants. While this list is neither comprehensive nor complete, it does serve to illustrate the nature and character of the effort taken by the NRC to ensure that appropriate safety and environmental measures are proposed, implemented, and maintained for nuclear power plants.

Each of the aspects raised in the "minute" is addressed in the Safety Evaluation Reports and Environmental Impact Statements issued in support of licensing. I have enclosed the documents issued in support of the Susquehanna operating license for your information (Enclosures 1 and 2). Enclosure 4 identifies the sections in which the specific concerns are addressed.

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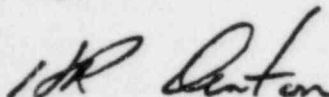
Ms. Mary Bye

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With regard to decontamination of old nuclear plants, the enclosed Regulatory Guide (RG 1.86) describes acceptable methods of decommissioning nuclear plants. Each holder of an operating license must submit a plan for NRC review and approval prior to decommissioning. Upon satisfactory completion of this program, the Commission may terminate the operating license.

I trust this information will be useful to you.

Sincerely,



Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:

1. Susquehanna SER and Supplements
2. Susquehanna FES
3. Regulatory Guide 1.86
4. Listing of Sections

## ENCLOSURE 4

### Listing of Sections

1. The mining of uranium, including the disposal of mill tailings.  
(See FES Sections 4.5.6 and 8.4.)
2. The transportation to, and enrichment of, uranium in gasification plants.  
(See FES Sections 4.5.6 and 8.4.)
3. The transportation of uranium to factories that make fuel rods, and the manufacture of the rods.  
(See FES Sections 4.5.6 and 8.4.)
4. The transportation of fuel rods and their loading into reactors.  
(See FES Sections 4.5.6 and 8.4.)
5. The routine emission of low-level radiation during testing and operation of power plants.  
(See SER Section 12 and FES Sections 4.5 and 5.)
6. The remote but ever-present possibility of a nuclear catastrophe.  
(See SER Section 15 and FES Section 6.)
7. The evacuation plans.  
(See SER Appendix D and FES Section 6.)
8. Nuclear waste disposal.  
(See SER Section 11.)
9. The decontamination of old nuclear plants.  
(See FES Section 8.6.)
10. Human fallibility and computer malfunction.  
(See SER Section 22 and Appendix F.)



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EDO PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

FROM: SEN. ARLEN SPECTER

DUE: 02/11/85

EDO CONTROL: 000300  
DOC DT: 01/17/85  
FINAL REPLY:

TO: NRC

FOR SIGNATURE OF: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

\*\* GREEN \*\*

SECY NO: 85-66

DESC:

ROUTING:

ENCLOSES MINUTES OF PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS WHICH APPEALS TO NRC TO DECLARE A MORATORIUM ON OPERATION & LICENSING OF NUCLEAR REACTORS

DAVIS  
TAYLOR  
GCUNNINGHAM

ASSIGNED TO: NRR  
CONTACT: DENTON

DATE: 01/28/85

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

RETURN INCOMING WITH REPLY.  
REF. EDO 230

Received NRR: 1/28/85  
contact: Eisenhut

cc: Case/Denton  
PPAS

*S. Black*

CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Sen Arlen Specter

NUMBER: SECY 85-66

LOGGING DATE: 1/25/85

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: Sen Arlen Specter, Const Ref

AFFILIATION: Doylestown, PA

LETTER DATE: 1/17/85

FILE CODE:

ADDRESSEE: NRC

SUBJECT: Urges the Comm to set a moratorium on lic of nuc power plants

ACTION: Direct Reply...Suspense: Feb 6

DISTRIBUTION: OCA to Ack

Rec'd OIA EDO  
Date.....6-28-85  
Time.....8:15

SPECIAL HANDLING: None

SIGNATURE DATE:

FOR THE COMMISSION: Billie