

TO: THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

cc:

SEN. WILLIAM S. COHEN
SEN. EDMUND S. MUSKIE
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FROM: CUMBERLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE
JOSEPH BEAN, CHAIRMAN *JB*

AT THE MOST RECENT MEETING OF THE CUMBEPLAND COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE THE MEMBERS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH THE INCREDIBLE FINANCIAL BURDEN THE CLOSING OF MAINE YANKEE WILL PUT ON MAINE CONSUMERS DUE TO EVER RISING OIL PRICES.

IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT MAINE IS NOW CONSIDERED THE POOREST STATE IN THE NATION YET WE ARE POTENTIALLY SUBJECT TO THE HIGHEST COSTS IN THE NATION FOR FUEL OIL IF MAINE YANKEE IS CLOSED.

ALTHOUGH YOU ARE BOUND TO ENFORCE NUCLEAR POWER REGULATIONS, IT IS OUR HOPE THAT YOU WILL WORK WITH CONGRESS IN RECONSIDERING YOUR RECENT DECISION.

IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU ALONE CANNOT WAIVE REGULATIONS. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE REMOTE POSSIBILITIES OF EARTHQUAKE ACTIVITY AND SIMULTANEOUS FAILURE OF THE PLANT'S SECONDARY COOLING SYSTEM AND CONSIDERING MAINE'S FUEL OIL PROBLEMS, WE BELIEVE THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD EXERCISE SOME PLAIN "DOWNEAST" COMMON SENSE.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE ENCOURAGE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION TO RECONSIDER THE CLOSING OF THE MAINE YANKEE NUCLEAR POWER FACILITY UNTIL THE CURRENT FUEL OIL CRISIS IS RESOLVED.

WE BELIEVE PAST EVIDENCE OF EARTHQUAKE ACTIVITY IN MAINE DOES NOT WARRANT THIS CLOSURE PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE CURRENT FUEL OIL SHORTAGE AND SUBSEQUENT HIGH PRICES.

AS A FOOTNOTE, YOU SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT OUR STATE PARTY ORGANIZATION, WHICH WE SUPPORT, IS CALLING FOR A MORATORIUM ON FURTHER CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES UNTIL THE PROBLEM OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL IS SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED.

LET US HOPE THAT EVERY EFFORT IS BEING MADE TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAFE, PLENTIFUL, AND RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES.

JB/tp

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