



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

April 17, 1985

GPU

The Honorable Paul S. Sarbanes
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sarbanes:

Thank you for your letter concerning the status of the NRC deliberations on whether to lift the immediate effectiveness of orders which directed that Unit 1 of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant in Pennsylvania remain shut down pending further order of the Commission. As you know, these orders were issued following the March 28, 1979 accident at Three Mile Island Unit 2.

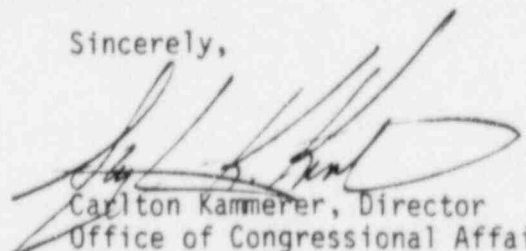
The Commission has directed its General Counsel and Director of the Office of Policy Evaluation to prepare an analysis of the training issues which are now pending before an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board in the TMI-1 restart proceeding. In addition, Chairman Palladino has requested an analysis of the pending NRC Licensing Board proceeding concerning a May 9, 1979 mailgram from Herman Dieckamp, General Public Utilities President, to Congressman Morris Udall and to then NRC Chairman Victor Gilinsky.

The General Counsel and Director of Policy Evaluation have been instructed to prepare a draft order dealing with TMI-1 restart for Commission consideration which reflects the results of the analyses on training and mailgram issues.

The Commission has set no date for a public meeting to discuss these matters; the public will be informed well in advance of any such meeting. The Commission has made no decision on whether or not the pending Licensing Board proceedings are a bar to restart of TMI-1.

Most recently, on April 11, 1985, the Commission received the preliminary conclusions of the Licensing Board with respect to the training issues. Although the Board's decision itself has not yet been issued, the Board was able to advise the Commission that GPU "has a fundamentally sound licensed-operator training program possessing no defects that cannot be remedied by an appropriate license condition."

Sincerely,


Carlton Kammerer, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs