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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D. C. 20520

BUREAU OF OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Mr. Samuel J. Chilk
Secretary
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20555

November 15, 1978

Dear Mr. Chilk:

The Department of State would like to provide its views on the "Memorandum" dated October 31, 1978, in support of the motion of the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Union of Concerned Scientists and the Sierra Club for a further hearing.

The Department in its comments on the February 1978 motion stated its reasons for opposing a further hearing. We do not believe that a further hearing on XSNM-1222 is any more warranted than was one on XSNM-1060.

The substance of the issues now raised by Movants has already been exhaustively addressed in the Department's pleadings with respect to the previous Tarapur licenses (XSNM-805, 845, 1060), the extensive public hearings on July 20-21, 1976, the Commission's opinion of June 28, 1977, the additional material submitted to the Commission by the Executive Branch to assist the Commission in its consideration of XSNM-1060, the extensive briefings provided the Commission by the Executive Branch, and the public hearings May 23, 1978, before the House International Relations Committee and May 24, 1978, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Thus, we do not believe that a further hearing "will be in the public interest and will assist the Commission in making the statutory determinations required by the 1954 Act." (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act, Section 304 (b) (2); 10 CFR §110.84 (a).)

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