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March 5, 1987

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Lando W. Zech, Jr.
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Zech:

I am writing to object in the strongest terms to the February 26th decision to order the publication of a proposed rule change that would permit the operation of nuclear power reactors without state and local participation in their emergency evacuation plans. As I am sure you are aware, this will allow the operation of the Shoreham Plant and the Seabrook Plant.

It is absolutely unacceptable to allow the operation of nuclear power plants, with their incumbent risks, without the full approval and participation in emergency planning by local and state authorities. The local and state authorities will certainly be involved in any emergency circumstances, and it is unfair to place this burden on the local population in a situation where safety has not adequately been addressed.

The disaster at Chernobyl illustrates graphically the incredible danger in the operation of nuclear power plants. It also illustrates the grave danger posed by these plants to the residents who live within a rather large radius of these plants. To relax the rules, and to effectively eliminate the participation of local and state authorities in the acceptance of these rules, is absolutely unacceptable.

I urge you and the remainder of the commissioners to re-consider this proposed rule change. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,

Barry M. Nathan MD

Barry M. Nathan, M.D.

cc: James McClure Clarke, U.S. House of Representatives
Terry Sanford, U. S. Senate
Jesse Helms, U.S. Senate
Jim Martin, Governor, North Carolina

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