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OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

February 5, 1986

The Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Congressman Dennis Eckart, a Member of the Subcommittee, has brought to my attention an issue of potential concern relating to the Perry Nuclear Power Plant in Ohio.

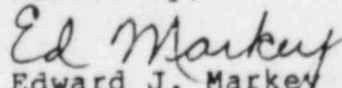
As you know, an earthquake occurred in the vicinity of Perry on January 31, 1986. Preliminary information provided to the Subcommittee appears to indicate that actual ground movement at the site may have exceeded in some respects the seismic specifications for which the plant was designed. The Subcommittee is most interested in learning whether and to what extent the Safe Shutdown Earthquake (SSE) of 0.15g that Perry was designed to cope with safely was exceeded during the seismic activity that occurred last Friday.

It is also my understanding that there may be some minor impact or damage to parts of the plant. The Subcommittee is also interested in a complete reporting of any damage and its significance.

I have reviewed both letters forwarded to the Commission by Congressman Eckart and Congressman John Seiberling, a Member of the Interior Committee. Both letters raise significant concerns to which the Commission should respond as promptly as possible. I concur completely with their correspondence with you. The Subcommittee also would appreciate receiving your response to the matters that they raise. Additionally, the Subcommittee requests all documents relating to this issue, including, but not limited to, NRC analyses and memoranda, documents generated by NRC's augmented incident response team, and licensee, contractor and vendor documents. These documents should be provided by February 14, 1986 with weekly supplements as additional documents are generated or received.

At Congressman Eckart's request, the Subcommittee intends to follow this matter closely. I request that the Subcommittee be kept fully and currently informed of all developments as your investigation proceeds. In advance, thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Edward J. Markey
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