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April 29, 1988

The Honorable Lando W. Zech, Jr.
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Chairman Zech:

I understand a senior NRC official has acknowledged that this agency is preparing to change its emergency planning rules so that Seabrook Station would no longer need to install a siren warning system prior to obtaining a low-power license. This prompts me to raise an unequivocal objection to what I view as an ill-advised and unacceptable course of action on the part of the NRC.

Should the NRC commissioners approve this staff proposal, it will only serve to confirm what a growing number of concerned Members of Congress have already concluded - that is, the Commission's denials to the contrary, safety is no longer the NRC's primary concern. And if the NRC allows this new rule, I would then defy the commissioners to prove that they are not regulating to please the nuclear industry.

I ask the NRC to act responsibly and in accordance with its mandate as originally envisioned by the Congress and the American people. I ask the commissioners to put safety first and to distance the agency from the industry it regulates. I ask the NRC commissioners to categorically reject this proposed rule change.

Sincerely



Nicholas Mavroules
Member of Congress

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