



STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
ALBANY 12224



MARIO M. CUOMO  
GOVERNOR

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Dear Chairman Palladino:

I respectfully request that the Nuclear Regulatory Agency forthwith terminate the pending proceedings for a license to operate the Shoreham Nuclear Facility at full power.

My opposition to the opening of the Shoreham Nuclear Plant is based upon the hearings, studies and findings of an independent commission which I established several years ago, composed of diverse members including persons supporting the opening of Shoreham. It led me to conclude that there could be no safe offsite evacuation plan for that plant. Suffolk County had earlier reached the same conclusion after months of study, hearings and the advice of experts that no safe offsite evacuation plan could be formulated for that facility. My sole concern, as I stated at that time, was and remains the safety, health and welfare of the people of Long Island.

On Sunday, May 4, 1986, while being interviewed on "Meet the Press," White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan, in response to a question as to whether the area around the Shoreham Nuclear Plant on Long Island could be evacuated in the event of an emergency at the Plant, stated that "as one who did live in Long Island for quite a few years," the area could not be evacuated and suggested that a bridge across Long Island Sound to Connecticut might solve the problem. He also stated that he thought the problem of the Shoreham Plant has become "a political football."

In an article by Susan Page entitled "Reagan: U. S. Needs More N-Plants" which appeared in Newsday on May 1, 1986, an undisclosed aide who was with President Reagan in Bali said that the problems over opening the Shoreham Nuclear Plant on Long Island are political, and that the Shoreham Plant should be opened notwithstanding that there can be no safe evacuation of the residents around the Plant whether there is a nuclear disaster or not.

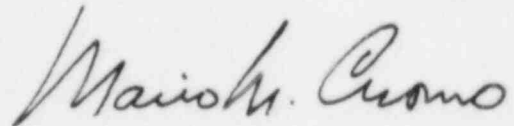
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These statements by the President's Chief of Staff, and possibly another aide, confirm the validity of what New York State and Suffolk County have been asserting in proceedings before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, namely that there can be no safe offsite evacuation plan for the Shoreham nuclear plant. In light of these admissions, I respectfully request that your Commission act to terminate the pending proceedings for a license to operate Shoreham at full power.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is charged with the legal responsibility for regulation of the commercial nuclear power industry. The objective of such regulation is to assure that the public health and welfare are adequately protected. That objective cannot be satisfied, by your own regulations without an acceptable emergency preparedness plan, an impossibility in this situation, which even senior White House officials now acknowledge. Your insistence to proceed with this licensing proceeding, if you so desire, can only raise new and serious questions about the independence of the Commission and its dedication to the protection of the public health and safety of the residents in the vicinity of the proposed Shoreham facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Maiolo Cuomo". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Honorable Nunzio J. Palladino  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Matomic Building  
1717 H Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20555