



1936 Merritt Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21222-4628
(410) 288-5650

June 24, 1999

Dear Dr. Jackson:

We write to express our opinions on the renewal of the nuclear reactor licenses for the Calvert Cliffs Power Plant. We have spent several months reviewing this issue. We heard from representatives of the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BG&E) and the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS). Our members debated the issue at length and have reached a consensus. Based on our first hand experiences with BG&E we trust that they can, and will, continue to operate the plant safely and responsibly. We were unable to identify any reasons to deny the license renewal. We therefore wish to express our support for the renewal application of BG&E.


With five nuclear plants in Pennsylvania, two in Virginia, and two in New Jersey, we do have some concerns about the renewal process. The proximity of the Three Mile Island (TMI) facility to our area has made us very aware of our vulnerability to plants outside our influence. With no realistic legal or political standing outside of Maryland, we must rely upon the auspices of your Commission to protect our communities from incompetent or irresponsible nuclear plant operators.

During our examination of this issue we have come to believe that the renewal process needs improvement. The regulatory specifications seem to lack specificity to the point of going from objective to subjective criteria. "Appropriate" and "reasonable" cannot be considered objective, tangible measurements. We strongly urge you to provide clear, specific, and measurable criteria for all technical, structural, operational, and engineering factors relevant to the operation of nuclear facilities.

We are also disturbed by the amount of time allowed for public comment and the scheduling of that input period. It is our understanding that the public was given 30 days to comment on what took many months to develop, and that the information presented for public comment was amended after the public comment period was closed. We vigorously urge you to revise the procedures to allow sufficient time for the public to review, evaluate, and respond to the information developed by your agency through the application process.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,


Mr. William C. Batton, President

Cc: U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes
U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski
U.S. Congressman Robert Ehrlich
Baltimore County Executive Dutch Ruppersberger
Maryland State Senator Norman Stone
Baltimore County Councilman John Olszewski
Maryland State Delegate John Arnuck
Maryland State Delegate Joseph Minnick
Maryland State Delegate Jacob Mohorovic

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The New 7th Democratic Club, Inc.

1936 Merritt Boulevard
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(410) 288-5650

June 25, 1999

The Honorable Norman R. Stone, Jr.
6905 Dunmanway
Baltimore, MD 21222 - 5194

Dear Senator Stone,

We have enclosed a copy of a letter we are sending to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The letter outlines our position on the renewal of the nuclear reactor licenses for the Calvert Cliffs Power Plant.

We spent several months reviewing the issue before reaching this position. We would appreciate your consideration of our views. We sincerely hope that you will concur with our conclusions and use the resources of your office to encourage the NRC to act on our recommendations.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this important matter.

Respectfully,

William C. Batton, President