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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

July 17, 1997

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Shirley Ann Jackson
Chairperson
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairperson Jackson:

As you may be aware, Wisconsin, including the Milwaukee area I represent, is facing electricity blackouts because of continued high temperatures and low electricity supplies. This is forcing companies to shut down some of their operations and placing vulnerable populations at risk for heat-related health problems.

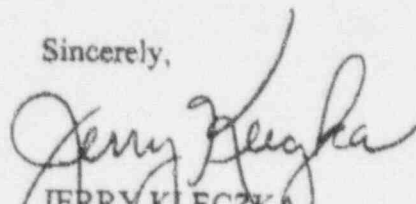
One of the major problems exacerbating this situation is the continued shutdown of the Point Beach nuclear plant, which normally supplies a large amount of electricity to Wisconsin Electric Power Co. News reports from my district say that "prolonged repairs and meticulous adherence to federal nuclear safety procedures have delayed startup of the plant" and that "Point Beach has been sharply criticized by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for months, although the agency has said it has seen improvement lately."

I would appreciate it if you would outline for me the problems this plant is having, when it is scheduled to be back on line, what resources are being expended by your agency to help it meet federal regulations and whether additional resources are necessary to speed up this process. I ask this fully understanding that NRC's mission is to put public health and safety first, even before sufficient power supply. Certainly I am not advocating cutting safety corners to address the Milwaukee area's power shortage.

Given the crisis situation in the Milwaukee metropolitan area, I would appreciate an expedited reply.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


JERRY KLECZKA
Member of Congress

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