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February '87

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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen:

I write to address your proposed rule change which would permit the licensing of nuclear power plants such as LILCO's facility at Shoreham, Long Island, without state and local participation in an evacuation plan.

If I understand your position, based on articles in the public press, you believe that state and local officials would cooperate and participate in an evacuation plan if an emergency arose. No doubt you are correct. May I suggest, however, that this is not the problem.

The problem is not good will, cooperation, or the lack thereof. It is that Long Island can not be evacuated effectively. The island is approximately

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fourteen miles wide at Shoreham. There is only one north-south route at that point. There are only five east-west routes. On any sunny weekend these roads are virtually impassible. Following a recent snowfall, amounting only inches, I drove to my daughters home near Shoreham, a distance of sixty miles. The trip took five and a half hours, without crisis or panic. Can you possibly imagine the chaotic stampede which would occur in the event of a nuclear disaster, no matter how unlikely.

You have no right to put two million people at risk so that LILCO can salvage a bad investment. We don't need the Shoreham facility. We don't want it. Many of us will do all in our power to prevent it.

Respectfully yours

Donald M. Boyce