



State of North Carolina
Utilities Commission
Raleigh 27602

March 26, 1979

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Chairman Joseph M. Hendrie
Members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Chairman Hendrie and Members of the Commission,

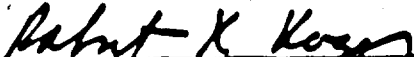
The purpose of this letter is to express our concern regarding the potential cost impact of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's recent order requiring the shutdown of Virginia Electric and Power Company's Surry Nuclear Station to insure that certain piping can withstand earthquake conditions.

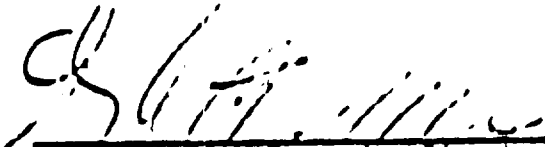
While we recognize that it is the NRC's responsibility and duty to protect the health and safety of the public from potential radiation accidents or hazards, we urge you to expedite your decisions relating to this subject to the maximum extent possible in order that the huge cost penalty of replacement power that will be passed on to the ratepaying public be minimized. Expedient action will also aid our national energy situation in that the majority of replacement power on the Yepco system must necessarily be from oil-fired generation.

Yours very truly,

N.C.U.C. - Public Staff

North Carolina
Utilities Commission


Robert K. Roger, Chairman


Hugh A. Wells, Executive Director

541 205

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No. 79-0638 Logging Date 4/2/79

NRC SECRETARIAT

TO: Commissioner _____ Date _____
 Dir. Div./Oper. _____ Gen. Counsel _____
 Cong. Liaison _____ Solicitor _____
 Public Affairs _____ Secretary _____

Incoming: White House referral from H.H. Gunkle
 From: _____

To: Pres. Carter Date 3/23/79
 Subject: Shutdown of Surry plant & five other reactors for seismic related issues

- Prepare reply for signature of:
 - Chairman
 - Commissioner _____
 - EDO, GC, CL, SOL, PA, SECY
 - Signature block omitted
 - _____
 - Return original of incoming with response
- For direct reply*
- For appropriate action
- For information
- For recommendation

REC'D 4/4/79
 SLIP 4/4/79

Remarks: _____

For the Commission: Combs
 *Send three (3) copies of reply to Secy Mail Facility

POOR ORIGINAL 541 206

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HENRY J. WAVE, M.D.
1928 - 1978

March 23, 1979

The Honorable James Carter
President
The White House
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Closing of Surry Nuclear
power plant

Dear Mr. President:

We were rather shocked several days ago to hear over the radio and read in the newspaper that the nuclear power plant at Surry, Virginia was closed along with four or five others because of the possibility of damage due to earthquake in this area.

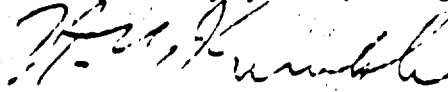
Of course, those of us who have lived here for more than half a century know that earthquakes in this part of the country are just about unheard of and the fact that we are approaching an energy crisis (real or otherwise, we will not discuss here). To have this much additional strain thrown on our energy deficit and having a substantial part of our electrical energy closed down because of some vague possibility to us represents a real inappropriate planning and even the possibility of somebody really working against the well being of our country.

With all the comments that have been brought up by people who apparently really know the issues, the plants could have been inspected while in operation for possibility of damage by earthquakes. If such might be the case, where the others are located this could have been done. It is my feeling that this shows extreme irresponsibility on the part of this commission and that it should be summarily dismissed. The members who have dreamed up this problem should be summarily fired. I think that people who are in positions of power should have more regard for the over-all well being of our country and for the individuals who have to pay for these issues that will greatly escalate the cost of obtaining electricity should have more responsibility than was evidenced in this particular instance.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,

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H. M. Kunkle, M. D.

HMK: kpb

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