

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

MARTHA LAYNE COLLINS

January 11, 1984

Mr. Nunzio Palladino Chairman Nuclear Regulatory Commission 1717 H Street NW Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Palladino:

Although the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has approved Cincinnati Gas & Electric's Course of Action Plan, I request that you create the public oversight committee proposed by the City of Cincinnati. I understand this committee has the endorsement of Governor Celeste and Senator Metzenbaum.

As soon as this committee receives your authorization, I will appoint Kentucky's representative. The creation of this committee would, no doubt, inspire public confidence in the efforts to deal with the impact of the Zimmer facility on the Southern Ohio and Northern Kentucky regions.

Sincerely,

Martha Layne Collins Governor

City of Cincinnati



Ath Botta Mesor

Office of the Mayor

December 12, 1983

Room 150, City Hall 801 Plum Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Phone (513):352-3256

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

Gentlemen:

We are writing in reference to the November 25, 1983 letter from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Region III office rejecting a proposal by the City of Cincinnati, many groups and citizens in this region for the establishment of a Zimmer public oversight committee. This committee would serve to monitor Cincinnati Gas & Electric's and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's future steps to assure that all safety-related problems of the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station are resolved before the plant is licensed.

The senior City Councilmembers of both the Republican and Democratic parties, and the two newly-elected Councilmembers, join me in maintaining that the acceptance of our proposal by the Commissioners would serve the welfare of the citizens of this region and also serve the best interests of the NRC.

For over a decade CG&E and the NRC repeatedly assured this community that the Zimmer Nuclear Power Station would meet all requisite safety standards. Even after the \$200,000 fine, the utility and the Regional NRC office indicated that the problems at the plant were paperwork problems. Now the disclosure of the scope of the problems, which were orginally brought to your attention by workers and members of the public, has been confirmed by an independent management review and by your own investigators. The history of the NRC Regional Office's failure to assess the scope of the QA breakdown has been costly, both in terms of dollars and the credibility of CG&E and the NRC.

As a result of this history, the public simply will not believe the further assurances of the NRC and CG&E nor any of its partners unless there is a mechanism for ongoing public verification. Region III's proposal to build public confidence by holding more public meetings and by enlarging CG&E's internal oversight committee completely ignores the seriousness of local concerns with the result that major questions involving the credibility of the process will continue to increase.

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The NRC must take at least two steps to restore public confidence. First, there must be a hardware review done by a group of experts who have no stake, real or perceived, in the outcome. Second, the NRC's and CG&E's implementation of the findings of the hardware review must be monitored by a group of knowledgeable citizens appointed, for the most part, by local and state officials. Accordingly, I have attached the citizen oversight committee proposal for your consideration. Many hours of volunteer time went into building public support for this plan. Your regional staff heard many groups endorse it at the Movember 1, 1983 public hearing in Cincinnati. The aim of the proposal is neither to infringe upon the legal responsibility of the NRC nor to veto the decisions of the utility. The committee would cast a light on the major selective policy decisions of both entities, thereby helping the public understand the policy implications of these decisions.

The goals of the NRC would be furthered by the creation of such a committee. The citizens of this area deserve no less than those living near Diablo Canyon and Three Mile Island. Failure to approve such a group of interested citizens would create a crisis in the already strained relationship between the community, the utility and the NRC.

Sincerelv cilmember

Marian Spencer, Vice Mayor

cc: Governor Richard F. Celeste Governor Martha Layne Collins Mr. James G. Keppler Mr. William Dircks

Guy Guckenberger, Sr. Councilmember

Sally Fellinitio

Sally Fellerhoff, Councilmember