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August 29, 1979

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)

METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY)

(Three Mile Island Nuclear Station,)
Unit No. 1))

Docket No. 50-289

LICENSEE'S ANSWER TO PETITION
TO INTERVENE BY
DAUPHIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Metropolitan Edison Company (Licensee) acknowledges receipt from the Office of the Secretary of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of a petition to intervene in this proceeding filed on behalf of the Dauphin County Commissioners. The petition is dated August 15, 1979, and was docketed by the Office of the Secretary on August 21, 1979.

Licensee has no objection to participation in the proceeding by the Dauphin County Commissioners but is unclear whether they seek to participate under the special procedures reserved to representatives of State and local governments pursuant to Section 2.715(c) of the Commission's Rules of Practice or to intervene as a party pursuant to Section 2.714. If the latter, the petition does not, as required by Section 2.714(a)(2), set forth with reasonable particularity the specific aspect or aspects of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioners

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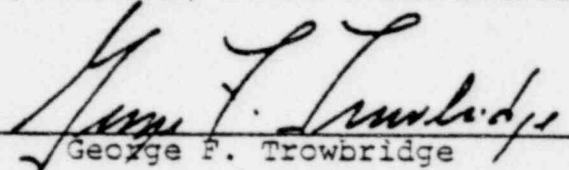
wish to intervene.

It is apparent on the face of the petition that petitioners had not at the time of filing received a copy of the Commission's Order and Notice of Hearing dated August 9, 1979, and may not have had a copy of the Commission's Rules of Practice. It is Licensee's understanding that these documents have now been made available to petitioners by Staff counsel. Since by Order dated August 23, 1979, the Commission has extended to September 14, 1979, the date for filing of petitions to intervene, there remains ample time for petitioners to clarify and/or amend their petition.

Respectfully submitted,

SHAW, PITTMAN, POTTS & TROWBRIDGE

By


George F. Trowbridge

Dated: August 29, 1979

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "Licensee's Answer to Petition to Intervene by Dauphin County Commissioners," dated August 29, 1979, were served upon the following persons by deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid, this 29th day of August, 1979.

Ivan W. Smith, Esquire
Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing
Board Panel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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James A. Tourtellotte, Esquire (4)
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Docketing & Service Section (21)
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555


George F. Trowbridge

Dated: August 29, 1979

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