

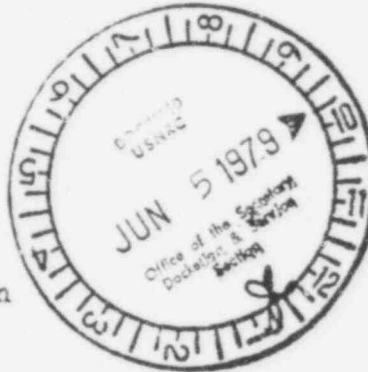
# Concerned Citizens of Rhode Island

Box 525  
Charlestown, R.I. 02813

50-568,569

NRC PUBLIC DOCUMENT ROOM

May 25, 1979



Dr. Joseph M. Hendrie, Chairman  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Dr. Hendrie:

We call your attention to the Atomic Energy Commission report on the "Site Visit to the Naval Air Facility" from D. E. Sells to the Assistant Director of Environmental Projects, dated January 3, 1974. Two very serious errors are contained in the following excerpted paragraphs:

"The site visit was also attended by the President, Mr. P. Gibbons and Vice-President, Mr. C. R. McLean of the local town council. They both agreed that the local residents (permanent as opposed to transient) during a recent meeting had voiced no objection to a nuclear plant being placed on the old air base and would like to see the necessary studies initiated..."

"At a meeting with Governor Noel in the afternoon the local authorities assured the Governor that it was the desire of the residents to proceed with the detailed studies of the site..."

In the first cited paragraph, reference by McLean and Gibbons to the local residents having "no objection to a nuclear plant being placed on the old air base", we believe that these town officials had no basis for giving these assurances about the views of the townspeople.

In the second paragraph, reference by McLean and Gibbons to Governor Noel that "it was the desire of the residents to proceed with detailed studies of the site", also appears to be a serious misrepresentation of the feeling of the town's residents.

We find that no town meetings were held to determine specifically the attitude of the voters of the town. Other than a promotional presentation by the Narragansett Electric Co., no informational meetings were held in the town that would help the citizens determine their course of action. When a 1974 mail questionnaire from the new Town Council under Gilbert Mook showed a 5 to 3 vote against a nuclear plant on the site, Mook then conducted an official referendum to determine the attitude of all voters of the town. They again rejected a nuclear plant on the site, despite an extremely intensive door-to-door propaganda campaign by the power company.

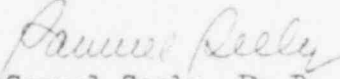
Since it is our understanding that NRC tries to avoid placing nuclear plant facilities in areas where they are not welcome, we request that your records be changed: (1) to show that a majority of the people of the town of Charlestown

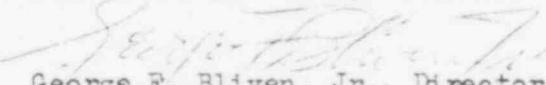
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had voted against this nuclear plant proposal, (2) to show that there appeared to be, at the very beginning, majority opposition to the nuclear plant proposal for the old Navy airbase in Charlestown, and (3) to strike the original invalid statements by McLean and Gibbons from the record.

Very truly yours,

  
Samuel Seely, Ph.D., President

  
George F. Bliven, Jr., Director  
Concerned Citizens of Rhode Island

SS/s

cc: C. A. Lee, Jr., GSA