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Washington, D.C. 20515

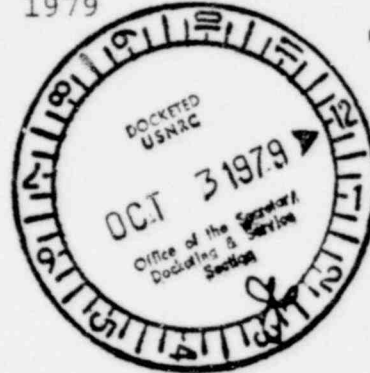
September 28, 1979

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Mr. Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Mr. Hendrie:

I would like to express my concern and deep disappointment regarding the management and NRC supervision of the construction of Marble Hill Nuclear Power Plant near Madisonville, Indiana, 31 miles upstream from my home of Louisville, Kentucky.

I have always stated that nuclear power will be an important element of our nation's energy supply in the future. However, as the incident earlier this year at the Three Mile Island Nuclear Plant has affirmed, extreme care must be used in building and maintaining nuclear power plants. Our primary consideration must be the safety and welfare of the citizens of our nation.

In light of this, I find recent developments at the Marble Hill plant utterly indefensible and reprehensible. Not only is this going to further chip away support for this vital element of our energy mix, but the potential for disaster is beyond comprehension.

Public Service Indiana's (PSI) mismanagement of plant construction is appalling. PSI President, Mr. Hugh Barker, has admitted that contractors and supervisory staff are inexperienced and that a higher priority was placed on cutting costs and construction short-cuts than on following strict safety standards on the construction site. But, yet, the NRC which is entrusted with the ultimate responsibility of protecting the public health, safety and environment by regulating and supervising nuclear plant construction and management, failed to detect any problems until workers at the plant went to the press with stories of poor construction.

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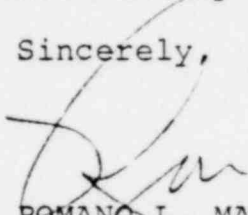
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This lack of NRC supervision is as indefensible as PSI inexperience and mismanagement. And, I demand that before construction resumes at Marble Hill, the NRC take steps:

- insuring that only the best qualified constructors and construction workers be allowed on the site.
- requiring that qualified PSI and NRC supervisors be on site -- not in Plainfield or Washington, D.C.
- requiring monthly inspections by NRC technicians and top management.
- insuring that the costs of these delays and foul-ups not be dumped on the consumer.

I will certainly be monitoring closely any future actions by the NRC at the Marble Hill plant.

Sincerely,



ROMANO L. MAZZOLI
Member of Congress

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