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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-4501

March 4th, 1993

COMMITTEE:
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URBAN AFFAIRSSUBCOMMITTEE:
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INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, POLARIS,
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GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE:
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, JUSTICE
AND AGRICULTURENuclear Resources and
Intergovernmental RelationsDr. Thomas Martin, Administrator
Region I, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Dear Dr. Martin:

I am writing to urge you to reconsider the decision not to have the NRC be represented at the special meeting of the Vermont State Nuclear Advisory Panel on March 9th, at which the issue of the safety of the Vermont Yankee nuclear reactor will be discussed.

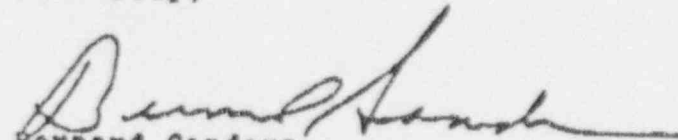
As you know, serious concerns have been raised about Vermont Yankee's operations, most notably by the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution and Michael Mulligan, a former reactor operator at Vermont Yankee. The Vermont State Nuclear Advisory Panel has responded by scheduling the special meeting on March 9th at which these concerns can be raised in detail.

Among the witnesses at this special meeting will be Dr. Robert Pollard of the Union of Concerned Scientists, a nuclear expert with whom my office has worked in past years on the question of the now-closed Yankee Rowe nuclear plant.

Our state's Nuclear Advisory Panel, in scheduling this special meeting to hear from experts on this issue, is responding to the concerns of the people of Vermont regarding the safety of Vermont Yankee. A full and informed discussion requires that the NRC's point of view be presented, and that the VONAP be able to pose questions to experts representing both sides of the issue. The NRC's decision not to attend would send a negative message to the people of Vermont regarding how seriously the NRC takes their concerns.

In the interests of full and open discussion of this subject, I urge you to reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,


Bernard Sanders
Member of Congress

BS:db

cc: Richard Sedano, Vermont Commissioner of Public Service
Michael Daley, NECNP

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