



**MIDLAND COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48640**

Phone (517) 835-6739

R. J. BENNETT
Chairman

We respectfully call your attention to the attached advertisement in The Midland Daily News, which relates to serious problems of unemployment that have developed – and continue to develop – in Midland County and surrounding communities because of the urgent need for a new source of electrical energy.

Unless the Atomic Energy Commission acts quickly on a publication by Consumers Power Company to construct a nuclear power plant in the area, the job security of the greatest percentage of our people in Midland County is in jeopardy.

We appeal for your support in our efforts to secure a prompt and fair decision from the Atomic Energy Commission on this application.

MIDLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Midland, Michigan

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10/5/71
2:30

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

Time Is The Greatest Of All Tyrants

An anonymous philosopher once said that, and we heartily agree.

Indeed it was the "tyranny of time" which prompted the Midland County Board of Commissioners to unanimously approve appointment of a Special Committee on Nuclear Power for Midland County at its meeting on August 17.

After many citizens — from the little guy on the street, to the most influential community leaders — had organized their efforts to plead with the Atomic Energy Commission for favorable approval of a proposal to construct a nuclear power plant in the County, we believed they deserved — as I needed — the vigorous support of their elected officials.

We determined, then, and we reassert this policy now, that we would rely on the Midland Nuclear Power Committee and other interested groups to answer the wild charges made by 'intervenor's', while our own campaign would be aimed at securing an early decision from the AEC on the application.

For every week, virtually every day, that the decision is delayed is extremely costly to the County, and its people, in job security and potential loss of tax base.

Our concern is that a decision be made fairly, but quickly, so the citizens of Midland County — and their elected officials — can seek some alternative if the application is denied, or begin planning for the industrial progress that is sure to follow if it is approved.

Despite the complaints of the 'intervenor's' concerning the

even the slightest doubt as to the integrity of the ultimate decision by the AEC.

And we can ask them, too, what alternative they propose. More energy from expensive coal and oil burning plants, which would surely present a much greater threat to our environment? And because of the high cost of the energy, a frightening menace to the jobs now held by our people?

We are concerned — and we believe you should be concerned — by the possibility of further postponement of a decision, a delay which can only mean declining employment and preclude any expansion of existing industry or the attraction of new industry to the area.

It is commonly known, even to the 'intervenor's', that if we are to maintain just our present employment level, and our existing tax base, we must have ample and economical sources of energy. And we must have some promise of it soon, else our County will decay from gnawing unemployment caused by massive industrial retreat.

If the plant can be built, and we hope it can, a decision on the construction application must be made no later than January 1, 1972, when the present contract between Consumers Power and Dow Chemical expires. Our campaign is geared toward securing a decision from the AEC before that date.

On the other hand, if it cannot be built, we must begin searching immediately for another economical source of

believe those questions should rightfully be resolved by the AEC, which has the scientific competence and moral responsibility to make this determination.

We can, however, ask the 'intervenor' if they truly believe members of the Board of Commissioners would subject their families and their neighbors to such a threat if they had

keep our plants running and our people employed.

We repeat, time is the greatest of all tyrants, especially when plants are closing down, people are being laid off, and our tax base is eroding, so we call upon all of the citizens of Midland County to unite behind our efforts to secure action from the AEC before the end of this year.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



**Write your Congressman and your
United States Senator now - today!**

The Honorable Robert P. Griffin
353 Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Philip A. Hart
253 Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Elford A. Cederberg
2302 Rayburn Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Special Committee on Nuclear Power for Midland County

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