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313 Rivermoor Drive  
Marietta, Penna. 17547  
October 23, 1980

Mr. John F. Ahern  
Chairman/Commissioner  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Sir:

In the interests of an ecologically sound  
policy of energy independence, and speaking  
as a resident of Marietta (12 miles from the  
Three Mile Island nuclear power station) and  
mother of a 15-month-old son, I urge you to  
expedite the restart of TMI unit 1, which remains  
idle merely because of its geographic and political

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relationship to the damaged TH1 unit 2.

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The operating record of the unit 1 plant has been outstanding over the last five years. I see no reason why the problems at unit 2 should change this. Furthermore, unit 1 can provide cheaper electricity than replacement power provided by oil-fired generation and far cleaner electricity than coal-fired power plants can produce. The actual addition of sulfurous gases and carbon dioxide to the atmosphere from coal plants, not to mention the damage from strip mining is far more deleterious to the environment and to public health than any actual radiation release resulting from AEC activity on Three Mile Island. Besides, we would be better advised to save irreplaceable petrochemicals for the manufacture of plastics and fertilizers than to mindlessly burn them.

The people of central Pennsylvania depend on you to weigh the facts, to disregard unsubstantiated accusations and sensationalist gossip, and to make a decision which, even though it may displease a small but vocal group, ultimately will be in the best interests of the public health and the public purse. I don't want my son's future to be jeopardized by political inaction borne of the fleeting, badly-informed fears of a few of my neighbors.

Sincerely —  
Mary Lane Stanley