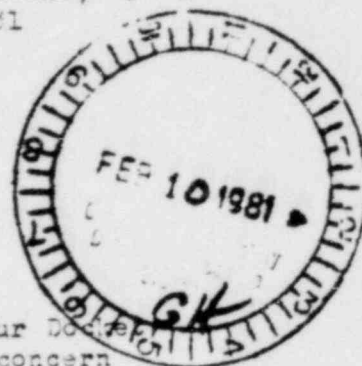


DOCKET NUMBER  
50-289

409 N. Water Ave.  
Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83401  
February 5, 1981

Mr. James F. Ahearne  
Chairman  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Mr. Ahearne:

I am writing in reference to your Docket 50-289SP, TMI-Unit I, to express my concern that the NRC has not yet allowed TMI-I to be restarted. There is no reason why TMI-I should not be in operation today. As you are aware, not only is TMI-I different from TMI-2, but other nuclear reactors similar to TMI-I are in operation today. I can see no justification for NRC hearings concerning the operation of TMI-I. The cost of the hearings is high, over \$500,000 a day for replacement power costs alone. It is a direct cost to the consumer, a cost for which, unfortunately, the NRC is not only not accountable, but to which it is apparently indifferent.

There is no technical reason why TMI-I should not be put back into operation immediately. The reactor should be restarted at the soonest possible time, regardless of the political pressures.

Respectfully,  
*Thornton Waite*  
Thornton Waite



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