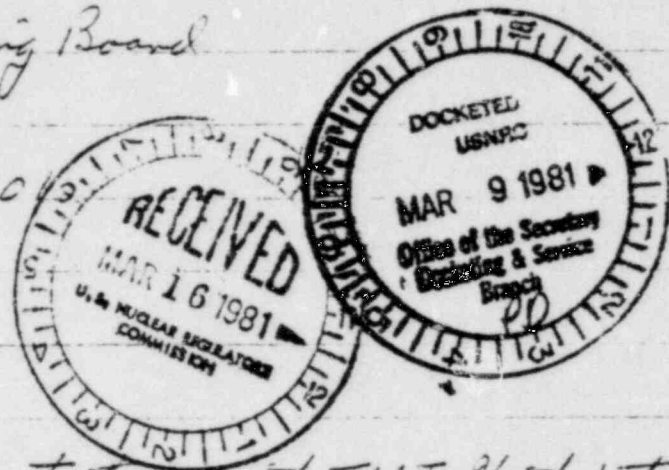


409 Stat St  
Shillington, Pa 19607  
Feb 3, 1981

Ivan H. Smith, Chairman  
Atomic Safety & Licensing Board  
25 North Court St.  
Harrisburg, Penna. 17104



Dear Mr. Smith:

I believe it is most urgent to permit TMI Unit-1 to start up again to produce electricity. Here are some of the reasons in brief outline form:

1. Customers of three utilities are paying higher bills than necessary because TMI Unit-1 is not operating.
2. Metropolitan Edison Company is in very bad shape financially. This is due mainly to the situation at TMI.
3. A very large part of the problems of Met. Ed have been and still are caused by irresponsible politicians and other persons who spread anti-nuclear and anti-Met. Ed propaganda.

(a) Within about one week (I believe it was only a week or at least a very short time after the accident) a man from the

Reading area who is a member of the Pennsylvania State Legislature was quoted in the local papers as saying "Let's bankrupt M/I-E." This were not his exact words but he spoke out in favor of bankrupting M/I-E.

This happened before any one had any logical basis for forming an opinion, one way or another, in regards to the accident.

(b) The news media immediately started to use a phrase in articles on TMI which has been used repeatedly in almost every article and is still in use, even today.

It is very typical of the style of propaganda pieces which the Nazi government in Germany and the Communist government in Russia have used. Repetition, repetition, repetition!

The phrase they use is "... the accident at TMI, the worst accident in

nuclear history."

(C) My own opinion is that there should be another phrase incorporated in each news article. "TMI, the worst case of news reporting in the history of the free press."

(d) Part of what I wish to convey under Reason #3 is this:

Was it not very difficult with such an atmosphere of hate and prejudice for the committee that investigated TMI to come up with a fair report

4. There is much talk about the need to reindustrialize the nation. How will this be possible without a heavy increase in the use of electrical power?
5. The Federal Government is committed to increase the defense budget. Providing additional dollars for defense is only lip service to an idea if additional electrical power is not available.
6. I personally believe that even without Reasons #4 & #5, the demand for electrical power will increase at a much greater rate than the 2% or 3% annual growth that is so

④

often quoted today. There is at least one of the  
largest utilities in the nation that is preparing  
for a higher growth rate.

I believe I could list other reasons for starting up  
TMI Unit-1 but perhaps it may be enough to ask a  
question:

"What logic or good common sense can be found  
to explain why TMI Unit-1 should stand idle  
while similar units in this country are  
operating?"

Sincerely yours

Francis L. Wagenblast Jr.