



# NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP, INC.

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December 1, 1982  
U.S. SECRETARY  
DOCKETING & SERVICE  
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Commissioners:

Nunzio J. Palladino, Chairman  
John F. Ahearne  
Victor Gilinsky  
James Asselstine  
Thomas M. Roberts

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20006

50-289

Gentlemen:

As an organization deeply concerned about the possibility of an accident at New York's Indian Point nuclear power station, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) awaits with trepidation the Commission's imminent decision regarding the re-start of TMI Unit 1.

It was the accident at Three Mile Island in 1979 that brought home to us in New York the grave danger to our region posed by the operation of the Indian Point plants. It was the accident at TMI that motivated NYPIRG to establish its Indian Point Project to monitor operations at the Buchanan plants, to educate the public about the risks they pose to our lives and homes, and finally to intervene in the ASLB's Special Investigation.

We have followed the TMI-1 re-start hearings with concern all these many months, always incredulous that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission would even consider permitting further nuclear power generation on the very site of the nation's worst reactor accident. We cannot believe that the Three Mile Island site, with its damaged TMI-2 core, waste products, and contaminated equipment, can be a safe place to operate another reactor.

Furthermore, from what we have read about the condition of its steam generators, TMI-1 is by no means an "undamaged" plant. It seems to us insane that this plant, of all others, should be made the testing ground for new repair techniques for a new type of steam generator tube damage.

The New York press has of late been covering the arguments in court of the owners and the manufacturers of TMI-2. Each party blames the other for the accident, and the substance of their accusations against one another seem reason enough to deny permission to operate TMI-1.

Additionally, the revelations about cheating of TMI operators on their exams and the implication in this scandal of GPU officials deserve punishment, not reward.

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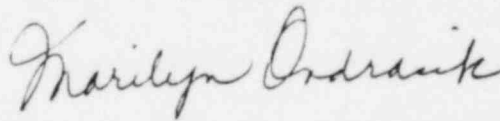
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Our sympathies are with the people who live near Three Mile Island, who voted as citizens of a democracy against the re-start. We wonder that the Commission can even contemplate ignoring their votes and their pleas. It is just plain wrong that these people may be asked to bear the emotional trauma of having to confront the daily fear they will live with if TMI-1 is allowed to operate. They have had enough.

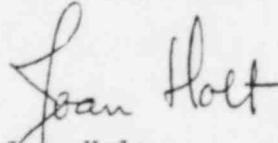
Finally, it frightens us to think that were an accident to occur at Indian Point 2 or 3, the Commission might permit the other plant to go on operating.

We urge the Commission to make the only sane and humane decision possible and to order the permanent closing of Three Mile Island Unit 1.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marilyn Ondrasik".

Marilyn Ondrasik,  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joan Holt".

Joan Holt,  
Director, Indian Point Project