

Feb. 23, 1985  
1807 N. Elizabeth  
Dearborn, MI 48128

Mr. Harold Denton,  
Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation,  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sir:

Our newspaper, the Detroit Free Press, carried stories yesterday and the day before stating that the Detroit Edison nuclear plant Fermi 2 may be licensed for operation in March pending the resolution of problems you have found.

I live within 30 miles of the plant and am understandably concerned with the safety elements but I would like to call your attention to another facet of the situation.

I do not believe the plant is needed. Our Michigan attorney general's office has stated that Detroit Edison has 39% excess capacity, twice the amount needed for reliable operation at peak loads.

Detroit has already sold bonds and broken ground for the Greater Detroit Resource Recovery project which is expected to go on line before 1990. It will be capable of handling 4,000 tons of solid waste (refuse derived fuel) a day and of generating 65 megawatts of electricity.

There are two other incinerators in the area, the Central Wayne County Sanitation Authority and the Grosse Pointes-Clinton Refuse Disposal Authority. Present plans call for conversion of both facilities to resource recovery through cogeneration.

One large automobile manufacturing plant in Detroit is seeking permission to burn its plant wastes to produce electricity and heat from sources within the company. It is reasonable to assume that others will also follow this course in the future.

Certainly it seems that decentralized plants using renewable sources are preferable in today's world to the old fashioned power plants, whether nuclear or fossil fueled, from which power must be transported often over great distances.

Why then do we need Fermi 2?

I urge you please to consider the options as well as the safety features before giving final approval for loading fuel at Fermi 2.

Respectfully,

*Liz Maury Dean*

Copies to Senator Levin  
Congressman Dingell

Liz Maury Dean  
Member Oct. 2, 1980 to Feb. 6, 1985  
Wayne County Solid Waste Management  
Planning Committee

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