



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

~~NR-200~~
TERA

JULY 26 1979

Docket Nos. 50-295
and 50-304

Mr. Wilbur S. Legg
Village President
The Village of Winnetka
Winnetka, Illinois 60093

Dear Mr. Legg:

Your letter of June 7, 1979 to President Jimmy Carter has been referred to me for reply. Your letter forwarded a statement adopted by the Winnetka Village Council which referred to Commonwealth Edison Company's proposed expansion of the spent fuel storage capacity at the Zion Nuclear Station.

I would like to thank you for your interest and stated concerns regarding the proposed modification at the Zion Station and the permanent safe storage of nuclear waste. Your statement has been forwarded to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, which is considering the licensee's proposal, for its consideration.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Darrell Eisenhut, Acting Director
Division of Operating Reactors

7908170204

COUNCIL ORGANIZATION
(COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN)

FINANCE
JEANNE H. BRADNER

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
ROBERT J. PIPER

LAW
DAVID PARSON

UTILITIES
ARTHUR L. DUBOIS

PUBLIC WORKS
GWENDOLYN H. TRINDL

HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY
ROSANNE BARRETT MAINE

WILBUR S. LEGG
VILLAGE PRESIDENT



THE VILLAGE OF WINNETKA

Incorporated in 1869

TELEPHONE (312) 448-2500

WINNETKA, ILLINOIS 60093

June 7, 1979

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION
ROBERT A. BUECHNER
VILLAGE MANAGER
KENNETH A. KLEIN
FINANCE DIRECTOR
MAX L. WHITMAN
SUPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS
GARY L. ZIMMERMAN
SUPT. WATER & ELECTRIC DEPT.
GIL M. SCHMIDT
FIRE MARSHAL
HERBERT A. TIMM
CHIEF OF POLICE
HELEN HILKEN
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR
JEANNE H. BRADNER
VILLAGE TREASURER
JEAN C. CAMERON
VILLAGE ATTORNEY
LOUIS RESNIER
DEPUTY VILLAGE CLERK



050332
The Honorable Jimmy Carter, President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear President Carter:

Enclosed is a statement unanimously adopted by the Winnetka Village Council urging the Nuclear Regulatory Commission NOT to take action on Commonwealth Edison Company's request for additional nuclear waste storage capacity at its Zion, Illinois nuclear facility until the NRC and other agencies develop a safe plan for storage of nuclear waste.

It is our hope that this statement will be included in the record of proceedings for the hearing the NRC will be conducting in Zion on this subject next week.

This statement epitomizes the feelings of frustration with federal regulation so prevalent in local government now. Winnetka depends upon the Zion plant of Commonwealth Edison for a major portion of the electricity it distributes to its citizens. In this statement, the Council has made a Hobson's choice to risk loss of this source of electricity in 1982. It did so to avoid what it perceives to be a greater risk which could be created after 1982 by increasing the density and mass of spent nuclear fuel stored at the Zion plant. It regards this choice as one which it should not have been compelled to make. If the federal government had either permitted the owners of nuclear plants to develop safe storage facilities, or had pursued its own vigorous program to develop the facilities, the Council's statement would have been unnecessary. It did neither. We strongly urge the federal government now to follow both these courses to the extent economically feasible in order to provide safe permanent storage facilities by 1982.

Sincerely,

Wilbur S. Legg
Wilbur S. Legg
Village President

WSL:lp

COUNCIL ORGANIZATION
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

FINANCE
JEANNE H. BRADNER

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
ROBERT J. PIPER

LAW
DAVID PARSON

UTILITIES
ARTHUR L. DUBOIS

PUBLIC WORKS
GWENDOLYN H. TRINDL

HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY
ROSANNE BARRETT MAINE

WILBUR S. LEGG
VILLAGE PRESIDENT



THE VILLAGE OF WINNETKA

Incorporated in 1869

TELEPHONE (312) 448-2500
WINNETKA, ILLINOIS 60093

ADMINISTRATIVE
ORGANIZATION

ROBERT A. BUECHNER
VILLAGE MANAGER

KENNETH A. KLEIN
FINANCE DIRECTOR

MAX L. WHITMAN
SURT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

GARY L. ZIMMERMAN
SURT. WATER & ELECTRIC DEPT.

GIL M. SCHMIDT
FIRE MARSHAL

HERBERT A. TIMM
CHIEF OF POLICE

HELEN HILKEN
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR

JEANNE H. BRADNER
VILLAGE TREASURER

DEAN C. CAMERON
VILLAGE ATTORNEY

LOIS C. RESNICK
DEPUTY VILLAGE CLERK

On June 5, 1979, the Winnetka, Illinois Village Council unanimously adopted the following statement to be sent to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Attorney General of the State of Illinois, President Carter, Senators Percy and Stevenson, and Congressman Mikva.

1. Winnetka is one of the local communities which shares the benefits of nuclear energy as part of the Commonwealth Edison service area and one that lives in the shadow of potential plant problems due to the geographical position and sharing of Lake Michigan resources.

THEREFORE we feel a special responsibility to enter into thoughtful debate of the nuclear waste issue.

2. Some Winnetka citizens brought this issue to the Village Council, recommending action on opposition to storage capacity expansion at Zion. This prompted extensive meetings and open discussion over a period of time.

THEREFORE we feel special responsibility to bring our position to the attention of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

3. Winnetka's debate included examination of the issues of transit, of temporary and permanent storage and the policies of the utility industry and of the state and federal government.

THEREFORE we feel our position is based upon thoughtful and conscientious analysis.

4. Winnetka is NOT OPPOSED TO THE CONCEPT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY GENERATION as a transition between fossil fuel generation and solar or other source generation. However, it is apparent that the elements of the nuclear generation process have not been given balanced attention. The waste element, in particular, suffers from inadequate attention and cannot be ignored any longer.

THEREFORE we feel that our prime energies must be focused on solving problems of the waste element and its sub-elements: transit and temporary and permanent storage.

5. Winnetka believes that our failure of attention to the waste element has been a political and administrative failure.

THEREFORE we feel that our principal focus must be reorganization of the political and administrative structures and responsibilities for managing the waste element.

6. Winnetka believes that this structure and responsibility must be shared by the utility industry, the state government and the federal government, with local government participating through advisory councils consisting of local representatives concerned with land use and safety/health issues; with utilities participating through responsibilities for researching, developing, constructing and operating transit and storage facilities; with state government participating via responsibility for monitoring the performance of utility operations; with federal government participating through responsibilities for approving and licensing utility operations and for developing guidelines for utility operation.

THEREFORE we believe that the NRC political and administrative structures ought to be expanded and exhorted to act immediately to accomplish the safe storage of nuclear wastes.

CONCLUSION: The compaction at Zion will not be necessary until 1982. Our witnesses indicated that substantial lead time was not necessary (even though more costly). We urge that no action be taken by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission until the federal and state government and the utilities and their respective advisory committees produce a safe plan for nuclear waste storage. We urge that this situation be continually monitored by all interested parties. The Village of Winnetka pledges its limited resources to the development of the program outlined in this statement.

A Winnetka citizen shall be appointed to monitor the nuclear waste storage situation and report back to the Council at regular intervals. We suggest the first report be submitted by December 15, 1979.