

Aug 3, 79

To the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Gentlemen,

I am an elderly citizen, deeply concerned about the implications of the TMI disaster, but prepared to accept the findings of the various inquiries into the causes of the problem and how to handle them.

I understand from the press that there is a temporary halt in granting licenses to new nuclear plants recently completed, probably until the results of the TMI investigation are known. But I inquire why those nuclear plants now in course of construction are permitted to proceed, when the changes that may follow from the TMI studies will render some of this new construction a waste, with the possibility, however remote, that the changes will be fundamental; or may even be prohibitive.

Here in Alabama, our power company had to halt its construction of its second nuclear plant because of a long delay in getting rate increases on which to justify borrowing the funds needed for the plants construction. Now some of the rate increases have been granted or firmly promised, and the company is hell-bent upon making whatever temporary if not permanent loans it can to proceed with the nuclear plant construction. An official of the company is quoted in the press as saying, "rules for building nuclear plants are changing so much, that unless the Dothan plant is licensed on schedule, they may make us rebuild half of it". Thus by hastening the construction of Dothan, the company could, the official is implying, escape building new safeguards into it. I suggest the same haste applies to many other such plants in the nation under construction. I consider such sentiments outrageous.

Why do you not halt these plants under construction until the inquiries and new regulations, if any, are ready.

I will appreciate your consideration of these views and await your reply.

Respectfully,

Frank A. Sieverman, Jr.
Frank A. Sieverman, R.

The quotes are from the Birmingham News of Friday August 3.

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The Chairman
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