

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


ORIGINAL

In the Matter of:

MEETING OF THE ADVISORY PANEL FOR THE
DECONTAMINATION OF THREE MILE ISLAND UNIT 2

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AT: Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

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1 MEETING OF THE ADVISORY PANEL
2 FOR THE
3 DECONTAMINATION OF THREE MILE ISLAND UNIT 2
4

5 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1981

6 Forum of the Education Building
7 Commonwealth & Walnut Streets
8 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

9 The Advisory Panel on the Decontamination of TMI
10 Unit 2 convened, pursuant to notice, at 7:10 p.m.
11

12 PANEL MEMBERS PRESENT:

13 JOHN MINNICH, Chairman

14 JEAN KOBE

15 NUNZIO PALLADINO

16 HENRY WAGNER

17 ARTHUR MORRIS
18

19 OBSERVERS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA:

20 CRAIG WILLIAMSON

21 GEORGE TOKUHATA

22 THOMAS GERUSKY
23

24 SEC LIAISON:

25 WILLIAM TRAVERS

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METROPOLITAN EDISON REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

ROBERT C. ARNOLD

CALE K. HOVEY

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Panel members, it does appear
3 like we may have a problem getting a quorum tonight which
4 means that we will not be able to take any formal action.

5 So I would make a recommendation to you as
6 Chairman. There are some folks in the audience who would
7 like to address the panel. Since we would be taking those
8 remarks down, even though there is not a quorum here, we
9 could give that opportunity to the folks and it could be
10 recorded and then transmitted of course routinely to the
11 members who are not here.

12 Would anyone object to my doing that?

13 Go ahead, Doctor.

14 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, do you have any
15 further comments or information about the makeup of the
16 committee?

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: First of all, I have written to
18 the Governor and I have written to John Ahearne. I talked
19 to John today late this afternoon and he told me he would
20 get an answer to the panel as quickly as possible. He did
21 not indicate yet exactly what direction he would take.

22 Of course, as I told a reporter, and there was a
23 story in the local paper this morning, I do not care this
24 particular moment to discuss my letter to the Governor
25 because I want him to have time to receive it of course and

1 respond accordingly. So we will await that happening and
2 hopefully by next Thursday I will have those responses.

3 (Panel Member Wagner joins panel members at this
4 point.)

5 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Good evening, Henry, glad to
6 see you here.

7 I had a discussion today, as we discussed on the
8 telephone, and that is a very viable alternative and if we
9 get a quorum I think it is one of the two items that we
10 should cover tonight.

11 Anything else from the panel members before we
12 start?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: If not, if there is anyone here
15 who cares to address the panel, please go to a mike,
16 identify yourself and your affiliation if there is any such
17 in your presentation and we will be glad to hear what you
18 have to say.

19 MR. JANIK: Al Janik, Middletown, a member of
20 PANE. I am quoting from the New York Times, yesterday's
21 issue.

22 "The Assembly passed legislation today aimed at
23 imposing more stringent safeguards on operators of nuclear
24 power plants, on the safety and training of the people who
25 run them and on the transportation of radioactive

1 materials. The legislation would establish for the first
2 time that the costs of an accident at a nuclear power plant
3 in the state be borne by the operators of the plant."

4 I don't want to read the rest of it. I think you
5 have got the gist of the story. I would like to see perhaps
6 some follow-up done on it by this committee, have it passed
7 on to the Governor and passed on to the Legislature in
8 Harrisburg here since this is a problem.

9 As of tonight's paper it is creating a bigger
10 problem. New Jersey has another plant down. I would like
11 to see some action along these lines.

12 I am not an expert and I don't intend to be an
13 expert. However, we have enough experts that could put some
14 teeth into this.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Al, I appreciate your comments,
17 but I believe they are outside of the charge to this panel.
18 Our charge is not to deal with legislation in the General
19 Assembly.

20 MR. MANIK: I realize this. Perhaps we could get
21 to the Governor and get to the legislators and they may be
22 interested in looking into this.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: You are welcome.

25 Is there anyone else in the audience who would

1 care to comment?

2 VOICE: I am a reporter and I have some questions.

3 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: If you don't mind then, if you
4 are in that capacity I would defer you to the general rank
5 and file in the audience if I say.

6 Again, if there is anyone in the audience who
7 cares to address the panel. There were several who
8 approached me after last week's meeting and said they would
9 like to comment on some of the recommendations, the
10 resolutions, or whatever we want to call them, that we
11 attempted to address last week. The opportunity is here and
12 if anyone cares to comment this is the time.

13 If not, and I see no one, you may come up and we
14 will be glad to try to answer your questions.

15 Off the record.

16 (Discussion off the record.)

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: One thing, Bill, I do commend
18 the folks who get these transcripts out. It was very prompt
19 and, as far as my memory serves me, it was very accurate.
20 Really I appreciate it and I am sure the rest of the panel
21 members do.

22 We only have four and that is three short of what
23 we had determined would be a quorum and that is a problem.

24 MAYOR MORRIS: Mr. Chairman, in regard to that, I
25 don't necessarily and I am not looking for names tonight of

1 people that didn't call, but you did mention that there were
2 a few people who called you. I would assume there were some
3 that did not call you.

4 I am wondering, since we didn't have a quorum
5 tonight, whether or not some thought could be given for the
6 next meeting to establishing some kind of rules of notifying
7 the Chairman if they can't make it in enough time so that
8 you can, if necessary, cancel the meeting so we don't come
9 and many people in the audience don't come.

10 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Bill, I wonder if next Thursday
11 morning you might have someone make a quick check with the
12 members and determine, you know, how many definitely will be
13 attending so that we could make that determination early
14 enough.

15 You are right. There were only two who called of
16 the five who are not here. There were only two who called
17 to advise me that they would not be able to make it.

18 The initial go-round when these dates were set,
19 the indicate was that we would be able to have a quorum.

20 MR. TRAVERS: We do two rounds of questioning.
21 First of all, we ask what dates might be convenient for
22 panel members and then we have panel members agree upon
23 those days which they believe they can attend. In this case
24 I think there were several of the people at least who
25 thought they could make it and obviously couldn't for

1 whatever reason.

2 MAYOR MORRIS: I realize there is a problem with
3 the state's position and I know that we didn't want to speak
4 to that tonight. But as long as there are only nine members
5 it is going to be tough maybe to get seven out of those nine
6 on a regular basis.

7 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: It sure is and I apologize for
8 not addressing that at the last meeting when we realized
9 there would only be nine. It just got away from me.
10 Perhaps we ought to at least temporarily move that down to
11 five but that wouldn't even give us a quorum tonight.

12 MR. WAGNER: Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, Henry.

14 MR. WAGNER: Would it be possible just to proceed
15 as if we had a quorum but we wouldn't be able to take any
16 definitive action?

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I wouldn't have any objection
18 to that.

19 MR. WAGNER: We have the three members that are
20 not voting and we have enough people here I think to do
21 something worthwhile.

22 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I hate to drag Dr. Palladino
23 down here all the way from State College and you up from
24 Baltimore and Bill from wherever in the boondocks he comes
25 from ---

1 (Laughter.)

2 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: --- and everybody else and then
3 not do anything. That might be a good suggestion and I
4 would just simply say if none of the members present object
5 maybe we can proceed on that basis, put things in the record
6 and then those folks who weren't here tonight can pick that
7 up when they get the transcript. If they object to anything
8 they can let us know and we will attempt to do that the
9 first thing next Thursday.

10 MAYOR MORRIS: I have no objections as long as
11 everybody realizes that I will be leaving here about 8:30.
12 I had heard that there were going to be storms in Harrisburg
13 so I took the train and the last one out of here is mine.

14 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, and Dr. Palladino wants to
15 start back to State College. If someone will keep an eye on
16 their watch and let me know when it is eight o'clock so we
17 can wrap it up, why we will do just that.

18 Henry, I am intrigued with your proposal. I have
19 spoken to John Shearne about it.

20 MR. PALLADINO: Would you identify what proposal?

21 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: This is the proposal Henry
22 brought to my attention. I think he mentioned at last
23 week's meeting that the WRC has said to Met. Ed. that it is
24 possible that the low-level waste in the resin state could
25 be shipped in its present state without being solidified if

1 they meet the standards. That is a very viable alternative
2 that would probably be received well by the NRC.

3 He indicated to me, and I made some notes and I
4 don't know what I did with them, and I apologize for that,
5 that it really is up to Met. Ed. to make the proposal. Gale
6 told me that they are prepared, they have a draft prepared
7 to make that request to get some of that waste off of the
8 island.

9 I think the recommendation of Henry, and Henry I
10 will give you the mike in just a moment, that we take a
11 position on this urging the movement of some of that waste
12 off of the island to at least make that much of a good faith
13 effort would be an appropriate thing.

14 Go ahead, Henry.

15 MR. WAGNER: Well, we did start to discuss this
16 the last time. As Mr. Hovey pointed out, there are
17 approximately 20 containers of low-level waste and about 50
18 containers of high-level waste that are in the storage
19 cells on Three Mile Island.

20 Since it is acceptable at the present time for
21 commercial reactors to ship dewatered resins as long as they
22 are in suitable containers to commercial burial sites, it
23 seemed to me that it would certainly be a step forward if
24 these 20 or so resins would be shipped off as soon as
25 possible.

1 It would require a specific waiver on the part of
2 the NRC. But it seemed from the letter that Mr. Ahearne had
3 written that they might be favorably inclined toward doing
4 that.

5 I thought that, although it is certainly only a
6 first step, it would be a significant first step in getting
7 solid waste off of Three Mile Island. It perhaps should be
8 done expeditiously because there are going to be changes in
9 the regulations that are occurring in July.

10 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: In addition to that, I believe
11 that some of the sites will no longer be available after
12 July 1st.

13 MR. PALLADINO: Dr. Wager, do you have a specific
14 recommendation that we perhaps might consider to support the
15 idea you have?

16 MR. WAGNER: Although we don't have a quorum to
17 vote on it tonight, I would recommend that in view of the
18 fact that I believe that the potential hazard of
19 solidification on site would be greater than the very small
20 hazard of shipping these containers under proper
21 circumstances to a shallow burial site that that should be
22 done right away or as soon as possible.

23 Therefore, I would recommend that the VEC consider
24 giving a waiver to Met. Ed. to obviate the need to fix
25 solidification of these resins of the low-level waste prior

1 to shipment off of Three Mile Island.

2 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Henry, I am under the
3 impression after my discussion that the NRC will look with
4 favor on such a proposal, but I would suggest that your
5 recommendation be worded that Met. Ed. make an immediate
6 request as promptly as possible meeting conditions to the
7 NRC with the understanding that such shipment must provide
8 adequate protection, proper packaging and no leakage because
9 if a container would get to Hanford, for instance, and it
10 was found that it was leaking they would not accept it. So
11 they would have to bring it all the way back and that would
12 be worst perhaps than leaving it sit down there. So if you
13 could deal with it from that direction.

14 MR. WAGNER: That is fine. That wording is
15 certainly acceptable to me.

16 MR. ARNOLD: Bob Arnold from Met. Ed. If I am out
17 of order, why tell me and I will sit down.

18 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Go ahead.

19 MR. ARNOLD: I think it is worthwhile noting for
20 the benefit of the panel in looking this that Met. Ed.
21 originally designed the Epicore 2 system and that processing
22 so that the liners as they are presently constituted would
23 meet all regulations for shipping. They have to be shipped
24 in licensed containers but that is typical for other
25 operating plants.

1 The requirement to solidify was initiated by the
2 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Those liners can still be
3 shipped as is fully in conformance with the regulations and
4 for the 22 or so that Dr. Wagner mentioned consistent with
5 what they are doing from other operating plants.

6 So it may not be entirely inappropriate for the
7 panel to consider making the recommendation to the Nuclear
8 Regulatory Commission since that is where the whole thing
9 originated.

10 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: That is a good point, Bob, and
11 I will back off of that. That is true, we can't advise Met.
12 Ed. but we can advise as were constituted the NRC. So
13 perhaps it should be to the NRC.

14 MAYOR MORRIS: Mr. Chairman.

15 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes.

16 MAYOR MORRIS: Before you back off, I am trying to
17 find in the minutes of the last meeting and I am not having
18 much success ---

19 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Pages 76 through 88.

20 MAYOR MORRIS: I had thought that we were going to
21 wait until such times as we got a copy of the proposal from
22 Met. Ed. I think Dean Palladino at that point said that he
23 hoped we weren't going to have to review a lot of these
24 proposals. I was hoping that that was going to be a short
25 thing for us to review before we recommended that the NRC

1 approve it because I had thought that Mayor Reid would at
2 least want to see the transportation routes and
3 what-have-you.

4 Again, my memory might not be right in that, but I
5 thought we got into this very question and thought we would
6 wait on approving it until we saw their proposal in writing
7 from Met. Ed. to the NRC.

8 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Well, I see here on page 79
9 that Dr. Palladino said he is a little concerned. Let's
10 see. "I would like to see them get off the island just as
11 soon as possible as quick as we can."

12 I know there was a discussion a point in the
13 manner in which you are speaking but I am not sure it was
14 applied to this particular point.

15 MR. WAGNER: Mr. Chairman.

16 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes.

17 MR. WAGNER: As I understand it, we would not be
18 approving or recommending approval of the mechanism by which
19 the material was to be removed. The only thing we would be
20 recommending would be that there be a waiver of the
21 solidification requirement. So I think the issue really
22 involves the solidification issue rather than things such as
23 how it is packaged or what particular route the material
24 would take and what particular safeguards would be followed
25 and where it was going to go.

1 It applies solely to our recognizing that we think
2 that particularly because of the urgency of making some
3 initial progress at Three Mile Island that they not have
4 more stringent regulations than are applied to operating
5 plants at the present time. It has nothing to do with
6 routes or it has nothing to do with eventual disposal sites
7 other than it would be a commercially acceptable burial site.

8 MR. GERUSKY: Except that that recommendation
9 should stipulate that the container or outside container,
10 the shielding, be in conformity with the proper regulations
11 and that all provisions be taken to prevent leakage like you
12 earlier said. It looks like it is just a blanket approval
13 to go and it isn't for these containers, I don't believe.
14 They are not normal containers from a normal operating power
15 plant. They are from Three Mile Island and they are using a
16 process than is normally used in a Nuclear Power Plant.

17 MR. WAGNER: I agree and additional precautions
18 would perhaps be necessary in transporting it.

19 MR. GERUSKY: But those as required by NRC.

20 MR. WAGNER: I agree totally. It seemed to me
21 though that we might make some progress if we could get some
22 indication that the NRC and Chairman Ahearne would be
23 willing to waive this solidification requirement.

24 Then next February the 19th, next Thursday, it is
25 my understanding also, Mayor Morris, it is my understanding

1 that Met. Ed. will present a specific proposal and a
2 specific request for a waiver. But I thought that if even
3 the members who are here tonight could come to some judgment
4 as to whether we think the solidification rule might be
5 waived that this could be discussed again with Chairman
6 Ahearne prior to the time we get this proposal on the 15th.

7 MAYOR MORRIS: Page 84.

8 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: The Mayor's memory is much
9 better than the Chairman's. On page 84 we did have a
10 discussion concerning this very thing and we tacitly agreed
11 that Met. Ed. would be in a position to submit a copy of
12 thier proposal to us by the 19th.

13 Is that right, Bob?

14 MR. ARNOLD: Yes, that is correct. We do
15 anticipate having the review of our submittal completed by
16 the 19th. If we make that schedule, which we will certainly
17 do our best to, we will provide a copy to the panel.

18 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Fine. Thank you, Bob. We
19 deferred to make the decision until the 19th when they have
20 the plan.

21 MR. GERUSKY: Mr. Chairman, I think that we are
22 maybe biting off more than we can chew. The Met. Ed.
23 proposal will require an engineering evaluation to determine
24 whether the packaging and so forth meets the requirements,
25 is safe enough for transport of this material. That is not

1 for us to decide. That is for NRC to decide.

2 I think we can initially before the meeting
3 something which urges the Commission to take a very hard
4 look at exempting them from that requirement provided the
5 shipment can be made safely. That is all that needs to be
6 done.

7 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I think that is the intent
8 here. We are not really, I don't believe, intending to
9 approve their plan. I agree with you, I don't think we
10 would be in that position. I think that the intent is to
11 urge the NRC to grant this waiver if Met. Ed. meets the
12 standards of adequate protection, good packaging, no
13 leakage, et cetera. That would be up to the NRC to
14 determine whether or not they meet those standards.

15 We are saying if they meet the standards grant the
16 waiver and get the waste off of the island.

17 (Panel Member Kohr joins the panel at this point.)

18 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Hi, Jean. We now have a fifth
19 member.

20 MR. WILLIAMSON: Mr. Chairman, do we know as a
21 fact that this material will be acceptable at Hanford?

22 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: It is my understanding until at
23 least July 1st.

24 Can you correct me if I am wrong on this, Bill,
25 that it is acceptable if it meets the proper standards.

1 MR. TRAVERS: I believe that is right.

2 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, Gale.

3 MR. HOVEY: To clarify it, yes, it is our belief
4 that the 22 intermediate and low-level Epicore 2 liners
5 which are like normal reactor plant resins, are very similar
6 in curie loadings and such. We feel that, yes, they will be
7 acceptable at Hanford. The problem is the other 50, the
8 prefilters.

9 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: We haven't attempted to deal
10 with the other 50 for obvious reasons from Dr. Cunningham's
11 presentation to us.

12 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, I would propose that
13 maybe we consider a recommendation that might be made and
14 might go to DOE in which we ask DOE to give prompt attention
15 to the interim storage off the TMI to site of the Epicore 2
16 prefilters and these are the ones that have the high
17 radioactivity, pending ultimate disposition of these resins.

18 I think that the panel could be of great
19 assistance if it would take a strong stand urging DOE to get
20 with it and get a resolution to the interim storage of these
21 resins so we don't have to keep them on the Three Mile
22 Island site.

23 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Doctor, I was really thinking
24 in the back of my mind of proposing at next Thursday's
25 meeting that a number of the panel would join me personally

1 on a trip to Washington, D. C. and with Bill's help arrange
2 a meeting with the proper officials from the DOE and some
3 people on the Congressional level from the respective
4 committees and present personally as a group from this panel
5 our concerns and the need for cooperation in doing something
6 with that particular waste.

7 I just feel that it might be better to make a
8 personal appearance down there and do it that way and then
9 follow up perhaps.

10 MR. PALLADINO: I have no quarrel with what you
11 are suggesting except that I do think it would be worth
12 getting the panel to take the position that if we feel it
13 deserves prompt attention by DOE, if that is the proper
14 agency and I believe it is, I think we ought to express it
15 and get some pressure behind action on their part.

16 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes.

17 MR. WAGNER: Mr. Chairman.

18 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes.

19 MR. WAGNER: I think Dean Palladino was referring
20 to the high-level waste.

21 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, he is.

22 MR. WAGNER: If possible, I think since we have
23 five members here we have 5/9ths and isn't that a quorum?

24 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: It is.

25 MR. WAGNER: If so, I would like to make a motion

1 and Mayor Morris will second it with respect to the
2 low-level waste if that is acceptable.

3 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I agree with you. I don't know
4 if it would be necessary to put the quorum into a motion.
5 We had set seven but obviously that was based on a 12-member
6 panel. We only have nine and we have five here and again I
7 would raise the same question. If none of the panel members
8 object, I would like to consider the five as a quorum so
9 that we can proceed with some motions and other
10 considerations tonight.

11 Any objections?

12 MAYOR MORRIS: No objections as long as when I
13 leave I am not ¹accused of breaking the quorum.

14 (Laughter.)

15 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: We will all leave together,
16 Mayor.

17 (Laughter.)

18 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: That being the case, do you
19 want to make your motion now?

20 MR. WAGNER: I would like to move that our panel
21 recommend to Chairman Ahearne of the NRC that he consider
22 waiving the requirement for solidification of the low-level
23 waste that is now stored on Three Mile Island to facilitate
24 its shipment to a commercial burial site provided that the
25 containers meet all the requirements of the NRC with respect

1 to avoidance of leakage, safe transportation, shielding and
2 other precautions.

3 MAYOR MORRIS: I would second that motion.

4 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: There is a motion and a second.
5 Does anyone have any discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: If not, I will poll it
8 backwards.

9 Are there any dissenting votes to that motion?

10 MS. KOBE: John, let me just make one comment
11 instead of a dissenting vote.

12 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Certainly.

13 MS. KOBE: I was present at a meeting of the
14 Nuclear Regulatory Commission in October of 1979 when a
15 group of middle-level technical people in the NRC staff who
16 were very concerned about the ability of the Epicore 2
17 system to immobilize waste convinced three Commissioners to
18 support this requirement of solidification in cement.

19 Now, that concept behind that at that time was
20 that recognizing the need to immobilize these wastes the
21 feeling was that the waste would be better immobilized if
22 they were solidified in cement.

23 In fact at that meeting Bob Arnold assured the
24 Commission that Met. Ed. would develop a satisfactory
25 solidification program in about six months. Well, that was

1 October of '79 and of course Met. Ed. hasn't done anything
2 on that since then.

3 I think it is very important that the committee
4 recognize as background for this vote on this motion that
5 the Brookhaven National Lab has done studies on
6 solidification in cement of these wastes and we now know
7 that even cement is not going to immobilize these cesiums.

8 It is in the context of that background
9 recognizing that we simply haven't found any way to
10 immobilize the cesium in these wastes that it is a sad point
11 that we have come to but it is better to get these things
12 off the island at this point than just let them sit there.

13 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I think the real bottom line
14 concern is that if we can do something that in a sense leads
15 to some positive action being taken in removing these wastes
16 it will be a good sign for everybody. I appreciate your
17 background on that.

18 As I said, and I gave you the pages there, we had
19 discussed this to some extent at the last meeting and I have
20 talked to John Ahearne and it appears that the Commission
21 would be agreeable to granting this waiver. That is why the
22 proposal is before us.

23 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, I also recall from
24 the visit of Mr. Cunningham wherein he indicated that these
25 can be safely transported if they use high integrity

1 containers for shipment. So I would support the motion.

2 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I take it then there are no
3 dissenting votes on the motion and I can cast a unanimous
4 vote on the motion.

5 (No response.)

6 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Okay.

7 The other item that we said we would discuss
8 tonight, and, Bill, thank you for pulling these out of the
9 transcript, is page 2 of the synopsis that Bill gave us,
10 "Subject: Draft Version of Panel Recommendations Approved
11 on February 4," was Recommendation 6 and the values that we
12 would set a ceiling on in this decontaminated water.

13 Doctor, I think you were going to do some further
14 research on that.

15 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, I went over the
16 numbers and talked to several colleagues. I think we have
17 to combine numbers with the words and then I think I would
18 have no problem with it.

19 For example, the recommendation I would suggest
20 read that the total inventory of the principal radionuclides
21 of concern in the processed water upon completion of the
22 processing just before disposition should not be allowed to
23 exceed, and then the parenthetical statement (and should be
24 reduced as far below these limits as practical).

25 The point being that I understand during the

1 processing these tanks may get above these limits but they
2 would be polished so that they would not be above these
3 limits when they are about to dispose of the water however
4 we decide to dispose of it.

5 So I would propose those words.

6 Then the numbers that were proposed would I
7 believe be quite acceptable, although as I recall, Tom
8 Cochran, Dr. Cochran had suggested getting rid of the
9 tritium limits since we have no control over it.

10 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: You are correct. He did say
11 that.

12 MR. PALLADINO: So I would propose that we go with
13 this table using the words I suggested.

14 There is one point that was made to me by Mr.
15 Hovey in the conversation I had with him. He says that we
16 ought to perhaps make some allowances for different
17 concentrations of particular radionuclides so that if there
18 is some variation that as long as the net effect on the
19 environment is not greater than that from the amounts listed
20 that it would be okay. Perhaps that is too fine a point for
21 our recommendation.

22 I was going to propose that we go with the
23 sentence that I had put forth and leave it be understood
24 that if there are variations that would have to be
25 considered that they would come back to this panel.

1 MAYOR MORRIS: If there any feeling that this
2 would be in any conflict with what Tom Cochran has been
3 talking about?

4 MR. PALLADINO: Tom Cochran, in discussion with
5 him he said, "Look, if they can't meet them they will just
6 polish this further with Epicore type of operation." So he
7 recognized that there may be high levels but he was looking
8 to the point where we are about to dispose of it. He wants
9 to make sure that the amount is not any greater than these
10 levels.

11 MAYOR MORRIS: But the statement preceding the
12 levels, Dean Palladino, you don't feel that Tom was going to
13 have any particular problems?

14 MR. PALLADINO: I don't think so.

15 MAYOR MORRIS: I have no problems with us acting
16 on it as long as that is the feeling because he was
17 interested in it and all we going to do is end up bringing
18 it up again at the next meeting if he is opposed to it.

19 MR. PALLADINO: Well, I would have no problem as
20 long as we put that in because that is I am quite sure the
21 intent that Tom had because he and I discussed it last week.

22 MAYOR MORRIS: Is that in a motion now?

23 MR. PALLADINO: I will so move.

24 MAYOR MORRIS: I would second that.

25 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Any further discussion on the

1 motion?

2 MS. KOHR: I have some points, John. I wasn't
3 here last week but I did read over the notes of testimony
4 and I had reviewed Tom's proposal prior to last week's
5 meeting. This particular recommendation makes me very
6 nervous.

7 First of all, I think it is beyond the
8 capabilities of this committee to go about setting limits on
9 amounts of radioactive isotopes in this water. I just don't
10 think that we are in a position to do that even though
11 certain members of the committee such as Tom and the Dean
12 have developed an expertise over many years in the field. I
13 just don't think that that is our job.

14 Secondly, I think that the tone of this
15 recommendation is one which will make it very easy to take a
16 second step to allowing disposal of the water into the
17 river. If we are not going to allow disposal of the water
18 into the river then my question is why get into this
19 question at all. I don't think it is within our area of
20 expertise and I don't think that it is something we need to
21 do. I just feel that it is going beyond our proper area of
22 inquiry.

23 I think the important question for this committee
24 on the water is are we going to allow it to be discharged
25 into the river or not and what kinds of storage or

1 disposition do we want to recommend.

2 I don't think that the question of how many times
3 it goes through the so-called polishers is of any great
4 critical importance to us. It doesn't have any legal
5 significance.

6 If the NRC wants to impose requirements upon
7 Metropolitan Edison the NRC is bound by the regulations and
8 guidelines set down in 10 C.F.R. So I just don't see why we
9 should get into this whole question.

10 MR. WAGNER: Mr. Chairman, there are two reason it
11 seems to me why we should defer this. First of all, because
12 Dr. Cochran is not here and this was basically his proposal
13 and, secondly, I think, as was just stated, that I think the
14 question of the disposal of the high-level resins is of
15 greater concern since we discuss in detail last week the
16 disposition of the water and this is sort of a fine point.

17 I think since we did the water the last time we
18 should, if possible, concentrate on the resins this time.

19 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I have no problem with that
20 quite frankly.

21 DR. PALLADINO: I would be willing to defer it. I
22 would rather have Tom Cochran here when we discuss it.

23 MAYOR MORRIS: I think Jean makes a good point so
24 I would be happy to withdraw my second if you want to drop
25 your motion.

1 DR. PALLADINO: I still want to move it at the
2 appropriate time. I just would prefer that we have the
3 appropriate representation.

4 HAYOR MORRIS: Fine.

5 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Okay, fine. The one thing that
6 I had hoped we would be able to do tonight was take a look
7 at the five that we did pass on the water so that I can
8 begin to shape up my correspondence to the NRC on the basis
9 of these five recommendations at least because of the
10 deadline.

11 If we wait until the 19th, and if we have any more
12 floods, and I understand, by the way, there is another major
13 storm moving into the area over the weekend, so, you know, I
14 could be up to my ears in ice and water and not be able to
15 get to this.

16 I would like to have the panel, if you have had a
17 chance to review the five, if they appear to be in the order
18 in which we adopted them at the last meeting that I could
19 have the panel's authority to go ahead and prepare the
20 correspondence to Mr. Ahearne. If I can get it done in time
21 I will bring it as a draft to the next meeting so that you
22 can look at my correspondence before it goes out if you have
23 no objections to that.

24 MR. WAGNER: Shouldn't these be read into the
25 record in any case for the transcript?

1 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: They are in the record.

2 MR. WAGNER: No, I mean these, Bill Traver's
3 letter.

4 MR. TRAVERS: Mr. Chairman, in some cases I had to
5 interpret the panel's recommendations.

6 MR. WAGNER: Perhaps they should be read in in a
7 concise form.

8 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Do you have another copy of
9 this?

10 MR. TRAVERS: Yes.

11 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Could I have that and just give
12 it to the young lady and we could it in that manner rather
13 than run through them.

14 MR. TRAVERS: Certainly.

15 (The document follows:)

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

February 11, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: TMI-2 Advisory Panel Members

FROM: William D. Travers

SUBJECT: DRAFT VERSION OF PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS APPROVED
ON FEBRUARY 4, 1981

Per Chairman Minnich's request, the following draft recommendations are provided for the Panel's consideration.

Since, in our view, the decontamination of TMI-2 should be completed as safely and expeditiously as possible the Panel recommends that:

Recommendation 1

The radioactively contaminated water located in the reactor building sump be decontaminated as rapidly as possible using the licensee's proposed submerged demineralizer system (SDS) currently being constructed. This recommendation, specific to the SDS system, is contingent upon approval of that system by the NRC.

Recommendation 2

The approximately 1.6 million gallons of decontaminated water expected as a result of TMI-2 decontamination activities be stored initially in onsite tanks to permit accurate assessment of its residual radioactivity content prior to a decision regarding ultimate disposal.

Recommendation 3

The appropriateness of continued onsite storage of decontaminated water be reviewed annually by this Advisory Panel.

Recommendation 4

To the extent practicable, Metropolitan Edison Company should minimize additional onsite water requirements by maximizing the use of recycled decontaminated water.

Recommendation 5

The radioactive contaminants (excepting tritium) in the unprocessed water at TMI-2 should be reconcentrated and immobilized as expeditiously as possible consistent with regulatory requirements.

Recommendation 6

The design and operation of decontamination systems for processing radioactively contaminated water should minimize, as far as practicable, the amounts of residual radioactivity in the resulting processed water. As a goal, the Panel believes the following curie inventories for all processed water resulting from cleanup activities are achievable. (Values to be decided by Panel).

W D Travers

William D. Travers

1 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Has everybody had a chance to
2 review these five? In fact, why don't we take a few
3 minutes. Let me give you the pages on which they appear in
4 your transcript. The first one is found beginning on page
5 34, the second on page 56, the third on page 61, the fourth
6 on page 62 and the fifth on page 63.

7 Now let's take a look at those and maybe we can
8 just adopt this as a part of the record and submit it that
9 way.

10 MR. PALLADINO: What page was that for the
11 recommendation one?

12 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Page 34 on the first one,
13 Doctor. Now, in that one you have to bear in mind that
14 Henry started out with a very long recommendation and we
15 decided to break it down into three parts, I believe it
16 was. So it is a rather lengthy conversation there.

17 DR. PALLADINO: I wonder if I could ask Dr. Wagner
18 a question.

19 When you moved that, Henry, or as it appears here
20 it says "The radioactively contaminated water water located
21 in the reactor building sump. . . ." Did you mean the water
22 in the reactor building, all of the water in the reactor
23 building?

24 MR. WAGNER: Yes.

25 DR. PALLADINO: I wonder if the word "sump"

1 belongs there or we should just say "in the reactor
2 building"?

3 MR. WAGNER: No, that can be deleted.

4 MR. PALLADINO: All right. Thank you.

5 (Short pause while panel reviews recommendations.)

6 MS. KOHR: Are we open for discussion?

7 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, go ahead.

8 MS. KOHR: I have some very serious concerns about
9 Recommendation No. 1. I think that it has been our
10 experience with those of us who have been involved with
11 watching the development, construction and operation of the
12 Epicore 2 system, another ion exchange system, that it is
13 clear that the ion exchange system does not immobilize
14 radioactive materials for any extended period of time.

15 The picture comes in my mind of crabbing in the
16 Chesapeake Bay where you drop your bait into the bay and you
17 immobilize a clump of crabs for a while when they hook onto
18 that bait. But unless you can capture them and contain them
19 for an extended period of time they are going to get away
20 because they eat up your bait.

21 Now, I think that is what is happening at TMI now
22 with the radioactive resins. The radioactive materials that
23 is captured on the resin beads has disintegrated the beads
24 according to information that we have received from some
25 work done and even in John Ahearne's latest letter.

1 So I think that we are deceiving ourselves if we
2 believe that the SDS system, which is another ion exchange
3 system, is going to do the job at this point.

4 Now, I have no problem with the first part of this
5 recommendation that the radioactively contaminated water
6 located in the reactor building be decontaminated as rapidly
7 as possible period.

8 I think that we should modify the remainder of
9 that recommendation by raising some concerns to the
10 Commission regarding the implementation of SDS.

11 I think the Commission should do what was not done
12 with Epicore 2 and that is make sure that extensive testing
13 is done. I know some column testing has been done on the
14 zeolite proposed to make sure that it is going to immobilize
15 the radioactive isotopes in that water for a period of time
16 long enough to enable to implementation of an ultimate
17 disposal system.

18 Now, my major concern about the operation of SDS
19 is that we will get into the same kind that we are into now
20 with Epicore 2 and that is that the system will be put into
21 operation. The radioactive material will be moved out of a
22 relatively secure containment building and put out onto the
23 island without a plan for disposal and disposition of the
24 high-level radioactive waste to be generated.

25 I think that when we make this recommendation to

1 the Commission that we should raise these two issues, that
2 we should tell them that we think that the SDS system, if
3 that is the system that is ultimately selected, should not
4 be put into operation until there is a plan carefully worked
5 out and already approved and ready to go to get the stuff
6 off the island before the resins themselves start to
7 disintegrate inside the casters.

8 MR. PALLADINO: Well, Mr. Chairman, there is a
9 difference between the systems being used here and the one
10 used for Epicore 2, the Epicore 2 being largely organic and
11 this being largely inorganic. There has been and there was
12 even at the beginning questions raised about the durability
13 of the system being proposed. But I think there was general
14 agreement that it certainly was going to be good for a
15 couple of years.

16 Now I understand, and this is subject to
17 confirmation by colleagues that know better, but with the
18 organic system I don't believe the same kind of problems
19 will exist, although I know that nothing lasts forever and
20 we always have a time limit. What I would like to be
21 assured is that the time limit is consistent with our ability
22 to cope with the disposal of the resins.

23 Incidentally, the last sentence in this
24 recommendation says "This recommendation specific to the SDS
25 system is contingent upon approval of that system by WEC."

1 At least that is one hedge against your question.

2 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: That connotes with it that it
3 meets all the NRC standards.

4 I think, Jean, the thing that the panel was
5 concerned about at the last meeting was that there
6 absolutely has to soon begin some movement to get the place
7 cleaned up. Leaving it sit in what you call a safe
8 containment building is not, I don't believe the answer. We
9 can't leave it sit there forever.

10 MS. KOHR: John, I am not saying let it sit there
11 forever.

12 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I understand that, but the
13 consensus in reviewing the transcript, et cetera, was that
14 let's go on with the job of cleaning it up and contingent
15 upon meeting NRC requirements but let's get the place
16 cleaned up.

17 MS. KOHR: John, let me just say this. I think
18 that there is a tremendous psychological impulse for all of
19 us in this area to allow ourselves to believe that clean-up
20 is taking place. I don't think that the Elicore 2 system is
21 a clean-up mechanism in any sense of the word.

22 (Applause.)

23 MS. KOHR: I think that the Elicore 2 system is a
24 procedure that has been set up that allows us to lead
25 ourselves to believe that we are doing something up there

1 and it isn't doing anything except moving the stuff from one
2 place to another and creating a different kind of a problem.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. KCHR: I have not received any kind of
5 assurance, and I have gone over last summer, and I am sure
6 there is additional material on SDS now, but last summer I
7 personally reviewed about four cardboard boxes of documents
8 on the SDS system supplied to me in my office by the
9 Metropolitan Edison Company and there was nothing, and I
10 mean nothing, in that documentation. As a matter of fact,
11 we had it also reviewed by experts in the area and there is
12 nothing in there to lead me to believe that the SDS system
13 is going to do the job that they say it is going to do.
14 They are proceeding exactly the same way that they did with
15 Epicore 2.

16 Now, since last summer I have received some
17 indications that Oakridge and Brookhaven are doing some
18 careful studies about what is going to happen to the zeolite
19 resins when water of the type that is in the containment
20 building runs through.

21 Now, I haven't seen the results of those studies
22 yet and I am not sure that other people have. I think that
23 we need to urge the Commission to just simply make sure that
24 before this thing gets the go button that they know that it
25 is going to work because I don't think we are going to do

1 ourselves any good by having this stuff run through.
2 Everytime they put two pipes together at TMI and run water
3 through they leak.

4 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: You have confused me because
5 you have said on the one hand that, you know, we want to get
6 the place cleaned up and I don't think anybody here implied
7 that the system shouldn't meet the standards.

8 I am confused also, are you saying that the water
9 that went through Epicore 2 doesn't meet the standards, that
10 it is still highly radioactive? Is that what you are saying?

11 MS. KOHR: It did clean up the water, John, but it
12 didn't clean up the island.

13 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Well, I don't think anybody
14 implied in this that it didn't do that. I don't think
15 anybody is arguing that. You can't get the building cleaned
16 up if you can't get the water out of it.

17 MR. WAGNER: Mr. Chairman, I think it is very
18 important for everybody to have their opinions heard but
19 this was discussed in detail at the last meeting. I think
20 as long as we have started discussing this if it were a
21 short thing that it would be permissible to go ahead and do
22 this, but I don't think that we should discuss last
23 meeting's recommendations unless we have a formal vote to
24 reconsider them because they were passed unanimously after
25 extensive rational discussion.

1 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: No. This particular one had
2 one dissenting vote.

3 MR. WAGNER: They were passed at the last meeting.

4 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes. I agree and that is why I
5 have trouble.

6 You know, Jean, and I don't want to belabor the
7 point, but I am just confused by some of your statements.
8 That is all. I really am. The point that Henry is making
9 is true. We passed these recommendations at last week's
10 meeting.

11 MS. KOBE: I don't have any problem with the basic
12 concept of the recommendation that the water needs to be
13 decontaminated as rapidly as possible.

14 The problem that I have is the assumption that is
15 inherent in this recommendation that the SDS system is going
16 to do the job. I think that the last sentence might deal
17 with that, but I think that the two points that we need to
18 emphasize are that the Commission should be assured that it
19 is going to immobilize the radioactivity in the water and
20 that it will hold that stuff long enough for a plan for
21 disposition of the waste to be put into effect.

22 I don't want to repeat myself but I don't see the
23 point in operating a system if we don't have any place to
24 take the stuff.

25 MAYOR MORRIS: I understand your concern, Jean. I

1 think, though, that it is only fair that you refer to all of
2 the parts of the transcript. Part of the discussion that
3 went along with this recommendation was the fact that the NRC
4 has been asking many of the questions and concerns you are
5 raising here in their correspondence.

6 It is based on the fact that they are being so
7 thorough that I personally felt comfortable with their
8 review and if they end up approving it that I felt
9 comfortable with the SDS system. It is in that context that
10 I voted in the positive.

11 MR. WAGNER: Jean, the last statement that you
12 made was you don't think the SDS should be operated until
13 there is a place to take the high-activity resins which, in
14 my opinion, is the single most important thing that we
15 should address for the rest of the evening, and that is what
16 can we do as a committee to solve this log jam with respect
17 to high-level waste. At the appropriate time I would like
18 to make some comments on that.

19 MR. PALLADINO: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think it is
20 important to recognize that we separated the problem into
21 several steps: one, cleaning up the water and then; two,
22 what do we do with this concentrated resin.

23 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: You are right.

24 MR. PALLADINO: That is why I think Henry had made
25 his point.

1 Last week we were talking about vehicles for
2 cleaning up the water. This week we wanted to talk about
3 vehicles for getting rid of these resins. I think both
4 steps are very essential ---

5 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Absolutely.

6 MR. PALLADINO: --- or otherwise in truth we will
7 not have cleaned up the island while we may have cleaned up
8 the water. I think we have the same interests in cleaning
9 up the island as you do.

10 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I agree.

11 MR. PALLADINO: I was hoping that when we get back
12 to the resin that in addition to the recommendation we
13 concurred on with regard to the low-level resins that we
14 make some recommendation with regard to the high-level
15 resins.

16 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Well, Bill has advised me that
17 it is ten after eight. Mayor Morris must leave, Dr.
18 Palladino must get back and temperatures are still falling.

19 MAYOR MORRIS: 8:30 I was planning on leaving.

20 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I would like to at least get
21 these five out. If you can keep it in that context, Jean,
22 in what we are trying to do, deal with the water problem
23 first and then come back and deal with the disposal of the
24 waste. Next week I hope we would be able to get into that
25 issue.

1 MS. KOHR: Well, I don't have any problem with
2 that. I mean, I am with that. I was one of the people who
3 felt that that was one of the major points this committee
4 should deal with. But I think that we need to be careful
5 how our recommendations come across to the press and I think
6 we need to be careful about how they come across to the
7 Commission itself.

8 Perhaps when we send in these recommendations,
9 John, and when you draft your correspondence if you can make
10 it clear to the Commission that we feel that this is a
11 package, that they have got to handle all of these problem
12 and not break them down and just do one without the other
13 that would satisfy me on this point.

14 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Well, I am not sure I can do
15 that but I will try. The initial correspondence will deal
16 solely with the water and we are planning on getting to the
17 solids later, but I will try to do something along that line.

18 MS. KOHR: I think it is a mistake to separate it
19 out like that.

20 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: But that is the way we were
21 asked, Jean.

22 MS. KOHR: It is easier for our discussion and it
23 is certainly the most logical way to go about dealing with
24 the problems, but when it comes to making our
25 recommendations it seems to me that we have got to pull it

1 together and we have to emphasize this to the Commission,
2 because they are doing the same thing. That was one of our
3 basic legal arguments that they are segmenting this whole
4 process and that is not beneficial to anybody. They have
5 got to see this as a whole package and they can't do one
6 step without doing the other. Again, it leads us to believe
7 something is happening up there when nothing is happening.

8 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I don't know where you got that
9 impression because I certainly don't think it is.

10 MR. PALLADINO: I certainly support Ms. Kore in
11 part, but I do think for the record that I cannot tolerate
12 supporting here statement that nothing is happening. I
13 think these people are conscientiously trying to clean up
14 Three Mile Island. Whether we agree with that they are
15 doing or not impugning their efforts I think serves nobody
16 any purpose.

17 I do agree with Ms. Kore that there is a point
18 with regard to the total package of ideas. I think it is
19 important for them to know that we are examining the
20 clean-up of the water but that we do consider equally
21 important and perhaps even more important the disposition of
22 these resins off site in an acceptable safe approved
23 manner.

24 While we may not have gotten to our specific
25 recommendations on that point, I wouldn't be adverse to

1 indicating that in putting these recommendations in that
2 context.

3 MR. WAGNER: Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes.

5 MR. WAGNER: I think it is possible that with
6 respect to the low-level resins that this committee can have
7 served as a catalyst in getting them off the island. I
8 would suggest that we should try to act in the same
9 catalytic capacity with respect to the high-level resins
10 which would meet your desires.

11 MR. PALLADINO: If we get to the high-level risk I
12 still would like to introduce the recommendation that we get
13 NRC or DOE, and I think it is DOE, giving prompt attention
14 to implementing an interim storage off-site, off the TMI
15 site, pending the final disposition of these resins.

16 MAYOR MORRIS: Mr. Chairman, point of order.

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes.

18 MAYOR MORRIS: I would like to do what I think you
19 would like to do, and that is to take the points made at the
20 last meeting. I think our charge tonight, and I certainly
21 think Jean Koht should make whatever points she wants to
22 make and certainly at the next meeting that can be done with
23 the whole panel or more people present.

24 But it was my understanding at the last meeting
25 that our charge tonight on these recommendations was to read

1 them and proof them basically to see if they really were
2 what we passed on at the last meeting and then after we
3 said, yes, they were the right spelling and wording that our
4 Chairman would then transmit a letter and we were not really
5 supposed to be discussing a changing of the recommendation.

6 I concur with what Jean has said that if we can
7 include as part of the letter the fact that we are concerned
8 about the ridding of the resins and they should be tied
9 together, I agree. I think that is a good point and we
10 should not forget it.

11 I would like to at least get some kind of
12 agreement that these are in order, and I think they are
13 based on this one removal of the word "sump" from that first
14 recommendation and I feel the rest of them are basically
15 what we discussed.

16 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, I concur with Mr.
17 Morris.

18 MR. WAGNER: I agree. I think they represent the
19 conclusions that we came to at the last meeting.

20 CHAIRMAN KIMMICH: I have checked them against the
21 minutes and with the exception of that word "sump" which we
22 have agreed should be removed they do appear to be in order.

23 I have made notes, Jean, of what you have said for
24 when I prepare my letter. I would ask for a motion to
25 submit these for the record so I can begin drafting my

1 letter.

2 MAYOR MORRIS: I would so move that those
3 recommendations be submitted.

4 MR. PALLADINO: I second it.

5 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: All right, it has been properly
6 moved and seconded.

7 Any further discussion on the motion?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Are there any dissenting votes
10 on the motion?

11 (No response.)

12 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Hearing none, the motion is
13 carried.

14 MAYOR MORRIS: Mr. Chairman, should we make a
15 motion or do you need a motion based on what Jean has said?
16 Should she make any kind of motion or have you duly heard
17 her?

18 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I would defer to Jean if you
19 feel you want it in a formal motion, but I have made a note
20 here so that when I draft my letter I will as strongly as
21 possible tie the concern that the wastes, the proper
22 disposal is even more important than the clean-up of the
23 water.

24 It is a good point, Jean. I think anyone is really
25 disagreeing with you.

1 MS. KOHR: That is all right. I am used to
2 arguing with you.

3 (Laughter.)

4 MS. KOHR: I think I would like to just quickly
5 put it into a motion ---

6 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Go right ahead.

7 MS. KOHR: --- and simply say that I move that the
8 Chairman in his cover letter to the Commission encourage the
9 Commission to consider all of our recommendations together
10 and to recognize that the clean-up process at Three Mile
11 Island involves the disposition of the radioactive wastes as
12 well as the interim steps toward immobilizing those wastes
13 and that that should be considered a total program.

14 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Is there a second to that
15 motion?

16 MAYOR MORRIS: I will second that motion.

17 MR. WAGNER: I am not clear as to what you mean by
18 "should be considered as a total program." I don't
19 understand what the implications of that are.

20 MS. KOHR: I think that when we are considering
21 processes for intermediate steps that they should keep in
22 mind the ultimate problem of what are they going to do with
23 it after it is produced.

24 MR. WAGNER: I understand.

25 MR. GERUSKY: Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, Tom.

2 MR. GERUSKY: Since next week the recommendations
3 concerning the waste are going to be discussed and possibly
4 submitted to the Commission I think that is what should be
5 stated in the letter, that we will be coming through with
6 additional recommendations which should also be judged as
7 important or maybe even more important than these
8 recommendations, but because of the time limitations we felt
9 that these were important to get to you as they were
10 generated, something like that.

11 I don't think we want to let them feel that they
12 are not going to get any more recommendations and this is
13 it. They are going to get a lot more.

14 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Another comment?

15 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, is there a
16 requirement that we submit this separately?

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: To this extent, Dr. Palladino.
18 Mr. Ahearne asked for our comments on the clean-up of the
19 water. In fact, it was supposed to be January 31st and I
20 pointed out that we couldn't meet that deadline and he
21 extended it to February 28th. So there is to that extent.

22 MR. PALLADINO: Okay, thank you.

23 MR. GERUSKY: The final version of the document is
24 now being drafted or finalized in Washington for submission
25 to the Commission. So it is not going to be very long

1 before the final version of the EIS is submitted and the
2 Commission will want to take these recommendations under
3 consideration while they are studying the document.

4 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Okay. Any further comments?

5 MR. PALLADINO: Do I understand that as part of
6 Jean's motion there will be a statement indicating there are
7 other recommendations coming?

8 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, I think that is the
9 intent. Yes.

10 Any dissenting votes on the motion?

11 (No response.)

12 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Hearing none, the motion is
13 carried.

14 Thank you.

15 Let's see, you don't have much time, Mayor. Do we
16 have time to discuss anything further tonight if the Mayor
17 is going to be leaving?

18 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, can you outline for
19 us what our plan of action is or perhaps even more
20 importantly what it is that we need to accomplish between
21 this meeting and the next meeting? We have talked about the
22 water and we have made some recommendation on that and we
23 started on the resins. How far are we hoping to go or
24 expected to go in our deliberations?

25 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: At next week's meeting I assume

1 that what we will do is exactly what we did last week only
2 for the solid wastes. I don't have a time frame insofar as
3 the NEC is concerned on that particular issue, although I
4 think the point that the statement is going to be coming out
5 that that should be borne in mind. If we can get through it
6 all next week, fine. If we can't, I think then we have to
7 schedule some more meetings and decide who else we might
8 want to have before us, if anybody.

9 By the way, I have given you a copy of the study
10 that came out of the Georgia Institute of Technology that
11 was discussed at one of our previous meetings. This is the
12 committee that was constituted to deal with the EPA. You
13 should review that because I am sure there may be some
14 things in there that you may want to discuss at next week's
15 meeting.

16 MR. PALLADINO: Could you identify it, please?

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: It is on the Georgia Institute
18 of Technology stationery.

19 Henry, did I give you all of the documents?

20 MR. WAGNER: Yes.

21 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Okay. Everybody got a copy of
22 the documents that I had.

23 Bill, one other thing, if I may, before I forget
24 it. Would you send a copy of the this to those members who
25 were not able to make it tonight, the four members that were

1 not here ---

2 MR. TRAVERS: Certainly.

3 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: --- so that they will have it
4 before next week's meeting.

5 I don't know that we can really accomplish
6 anything else tonight and I would actually call for a motion
7 to adjourn until next Thursday night.

8 MR. PALLADINO: Mr. Chairman, have we cleared up
9 who is going to be the point of contact to check that a
10 meeting is or is not going to take place?

11 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes.

12 MR. PALLADINO: That was one of my problems today.

13 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Right. Bill will have his
14 office poll next Thursday morning, and for any subsequent
15 meetings on the morning of the meeting, to determine if we
16 will in fact have a quorum. Then he will me and we will
17 make whatever decision is necessary at that time.

18 MR. PALLADINO: I am thinking even further, Mr.
19 Chairman. The news about the impending inclement weather
20 didn't come until the early part of the afternoon.

21 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Right.

22 MR. PALLADINO: I was looking for a place where I
23 could call and they could say, yes, we understand that. We
24 have looked at it and we still think we are going to hold
25 the meeting and therefore everybody could be guided

1 accordingly. If we could establish that, either your office
2 or Mr. Travers' office, I have no objection. Just so there
3 is somebody there that feels responsible even if you are not
4 there to provide that kind of information.

5 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: I believe, Bill, you sent to
6 everyone the little blurb on how to get to the NRC by
7 calling the local office?

8 MR. TRAVERS: That was passed out at the first
9 meeting.

10 MS. KOHR: That doesn't work for me.

11 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Oh, it doesn't work for you?

12 MS. KOHR: No.

13 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Well, I have no problem.

14 MS. KOHR: Well, you have got one of those
15 operators in Harrisburg.

16 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: And you don't.

17 MS. KOHR: No, and they won't take me up there.

18 MR. TRAVERS: I haven't heard before now of any
19 problems. No one has really come to me but I would be happy
20 to help.

21 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: So you can you help Jean out
22 with that? The point I am getting at is I think that your
23 office should be the clearing office and that between you
24 and I we will determine it. If you will let me
25 approximately when you depart for Harrisburg so that up to

1 that point if there are any problems I can get in touch with
2 you and we can cancel out if it become necessary.

3 MR. TRAVERS: Sure.

4 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: For Jean, if you can get her a
5 number where she can call.

6 MAYOR MORRIS: What is your phone number that we
7 can reach you at, Bill.

8 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Yes, and Mayor Morris would
9 have the same problem. He would have to have it also. He
10 had passed out a slip.

11 MR. TRAVERS: It is on that list but I will give
12 it to you again.

13 MAYOR MORRIS: We called your office and you had
14 left. We got it today. I was just going to write it on
15 this list if you had it handy.

16 MR. TRAVERS: 301-492-7811.

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: If he can get you to an, what
18 is it, FTS operator it doesn't cost the city any money and
19 that is what we are trying to get for you.

20 MAYOR MORRIS: Right. Well, we will go for that.

21 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Bill will get that to you.

22 Okay, Doctor, does that address the concern?

23 MR. PALLADINO: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: That way you would call Mr.
25 Travers if there is any question in your mind at all as to

1 whether or not there is a question on the meeting and his
2 office would have that answer.

3 MR. TRAVERS: I guess what I would appreciate it
4 is if people aren't going to be attending that they let us
5 know as soon as possible as well. I think that would be
6 helpful. We didn't hear from anyone today.

7 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Well, I had two calls.

8 MR. TRAVERS: Yes. Possibly because of the time I
9 left.

10 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Okay, folks. Again I thank you.

11 Does anyone in the audience have anything further
12 to say before we adjourn the meeting?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: Motion to adjourn?

15 MR. PALLADINO: I so move.

16 MAYOR MORRIS: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN MINNICH: It has been properly moved and
18 seconded.

19 The meeting is adjourned. See you all next
20 Thursday, the good Lord willing, with no ice jams or no snow
21 storms.

22 (Whereupon, at 3:30 p.m., the Advisory Panel
23 adjourned.)

24 * * *

25

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the

in the matter of: MEETING OF THE ADVISORY PANEL FOR THE DECONTAMINATION
OF THREE MILE ISLAND UNIT 2

Date of Proceeding: February 11, 1981

Docket Number: _____

Place of Proceeding: Harrisburg, Pa.

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Mary C. Simons

Official Reporter (Typed)



Official Reporter (Signature)

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