

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

APRIL 3, 1981

TO: NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 011498

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 4, 1981

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE JAMES R. MILLS
STATE SENATOR
CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE
815 THIRD AVENUE
SUITE 201
CHULA VISTA CA 92011

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO DEAL PRUDENTLY WITH
ISSUES REGARDING THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR POWER
IN CA; CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY OF THE
DIABLO CANYON AND SAN ONOFRE NUCLEAR
FACILITIES AWAITING FINAL REVIEW BEFORE THE
NRC

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7610.

RETURN BASIC CORRESPONDENCE, CONTROL SHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 94, THE WHITE HOUSE

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT:
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

8105110258

ID # 011498ATWHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☒ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD)8/03/09Name of Correspondent: James R. Miller☒ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____

(B) _____

(C) _____

Subject: Was the Pres. to deal overtly with issues regarding the future of nuclear power in Calif. Concerned about the safety of the Diablo Canyon and San Onofre nuclear facilities, awaiting final review before the NRC.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Official/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>EA ^{10/10} Peaches</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>8/103/10</u>		<u>S</u>	<u>8/103/13</u>
<u>Energy</u>	Referral Note: <u>R</u>	<u>8/103/17</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>8/103/30</u>
<u>NRC</u>	Referral Note: <u>R</u>	<u>8/104/03</u>			
	Referral Note:				
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	Referral Note:				

ACTION CODES:

A - Appropriate Action
C - Comments
D - Draft Response
F - Fact Sheet
I - Info Copy/No Action Necessary
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

A - Answered
B - Non-Special Referral
C - Completed
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

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Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.



JAMES R. MILLS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
SENATOR, FORTIETH DISTRICT

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SACRAMENTO OFFICE

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95834
(916) 445-8787

DISTRICT OFFICE

815 THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 201
CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA 92011
(714) 427-7812

March 4, 1981

011498

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington D. C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

We urge you to deal prudently with issues you face regarding the future of nuclear power in California.

As you know, there are two nuclear facilities -- Diablo Canyon and San Onofre -- awaiting final review before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

We believe that safety considerations should be the critical factor in deciding whether or not to operate the facilities. As the California Public Utilities Commission stated recently (in a decision denying a reopening of Diablo Canyon economic issues):

"We do not believe that the economic considerations under our purview should supersede the safety issues. To the contrary, if the plants present serious risk to public health and safety, they should not be operated."

The safety issues at Diablo Canyon and San Onofre have not been resolved. We believe that any tampering with the normal regulatory process in these cases would be an abdication of governmental responsibility to insure public health and safety.

At Diablo Canyon the NRC is still reviewing seismic safety and evacuation planning. With the United States Geological Survey stating that a magnitude 7.5 earthquake is possible in the vicinity of the plant, local governments and local citizens are understandably concerned.

The city councils in San Luis Obispo, Pismo Beach and Morro Bay have all urged the NRC to look more carefully at the safety

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considerations and not license Diablo Canyon until the safety questions are resolved. Eighty physicians in San Luis Obispo County have stated a similar position.


There is much concern in California and elsewhere about reducing foreign oil imports. We heartily agree that this is a critical goal. Yet in California, only fifteen percent of the oil consumed is used to produce electricity. Since much of this oil is residual product that cannot be used elsewhere, the impact on oil imports of bringing the nuclear facilities on line is much less than it may seem.

By comparison, the transportation sector uses 62 percent of the petroleum in the state. Over the last two years modest conservation efforts in the transportation sector have resulted in savings equivalent to more energy than would be produced by Diablo Canyon. Much greater savings are possible and we are actively pursuing these areas.

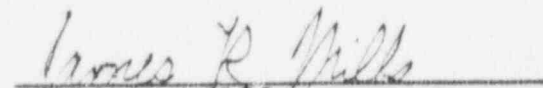
As to the need for the facilities, the best estimates are clear that there is not a critical need for new nuclear plants at this time. Electricity use in California is remaining nearly constant.

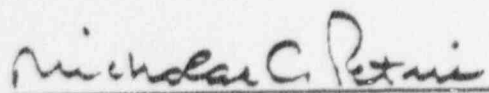
There is a serious and legitimate concern about nuclear power in California. In order to meet the needs of our citizens, we strongly urge you to deal with the issue carefully and cautiously. As an important first step, we urge you to appoint a chairman to the NRC who will carefully consider all the issues surrounding nuclear facility siting in the decision-making process.

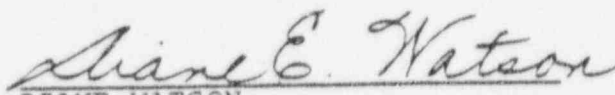
Thank you indeed for your consideration.

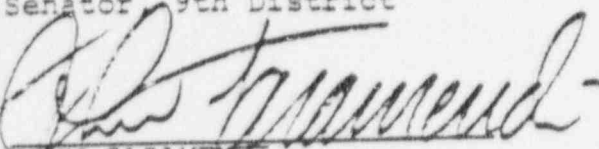

ALLEN SIEROTA
Senator, 22nd District


Sincerely,

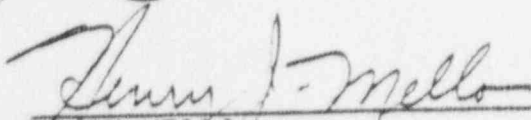

JAMES R. MILLS
Senator, 40th District

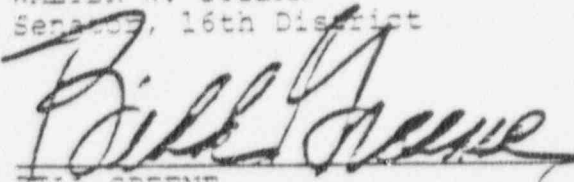

NICHOLAS C. PETRIS
Senator, 9th District


DIANE WATSON
Senator, 30th District


JOHN CARAMENDI
Senator, 13th District


WALTER W. STIERN
Senator, 16th District


HENRY MELLO
Senator, 10th District


BILL GREENE
Senator, 28th District