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May 6, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard C. DeYoung, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement

FROM: James J. Cummings, Director
Office of Inspector and Auditor

SUBJECT: DIA INPUT TO CONGRESSMAN OTTINGER'S REQUEST

Attached is OIA's input to the request by Congressman Ottinger regarding the activities of OIA since September 1, 1981.

Attachment:
As Stated

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

May 14, 1982

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The Honorable Richard L. Ottinger, Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your letter to me of April 29, 1982, I am providing you the following summary of activities by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission since September 1, 1981 regarding investigations involving the William H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Plant.

Region III

Since September 1 the principal activities of the Region III staff with regard to Zimmer have been directed toward (1) completion of the first phase of the investigation on October 9 and the issuance of the report and civil penalty on November 24; (2) reorganization of the Region III office on February 8, 1982 to allow personnel to focus on the expeditious completion of the second and last phase of the investigation; (3) inspections by resident and region-based personnel to assess the adequacy of ongoing construction activities and to assess the quality of past work; and (4) planning and implementation of field work required to complete the investigation. Other Region III related efforts included participation in a special ACRS subcommittee meeting on February 18, 1982, and coordination of investigation/review by the NRC Office of Inspector and Auditor and the Department of Justice. Region III expects to complete the investigation by December 1982.

Some hardware deficiencies have been identified thus far by the licensee; however, the significance and extent of potential deficiencies have not yet been determined. It is the purpose of the NRC-required Quality Confirmation Program to make these determinations. NRC licensing action will not occur unless the NRC is fully satisfied that the licensee has made these determinations and unless the NRC is confident that quality of construction provides adequate assurance the plant can be safely operated.

Office of Inspector and Auditor

Active field investigations have not been conducted by the Office of Inspector and Auditor (OIA) involving the William H. Zimmer Nuclear Project since September 1, 1981. OIA initiated an investigation which covered the period from late May 1981 through early July 1981. However, following a meeting on

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The Honorable Richard L. Ottinger -2-

September 4, 1981, between attorneys from the U. S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of Ohio, Office of Inspection and Enforcement (IE) representatives and OIA, the OIA discontinued its investigative effort at the request of the Department of Justice (DOJ). Correspondence on this subject between OIA and the U. S. Attorney's Office, Cincinnati, Ohio, was furnished to you on May 1, 1982.

Office of Inspection and Enforcement

The Office of Inspection and Enforcement has not conducted any investigations or special inspections involving the William H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Plant since September 1, 1981.

Please contact us if you desire any additional information.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Nunzio J. Palladino
Nunzio J. Palladino

Cleared with Cmrs.' Offices by SECY C/R.
(Cmr. Ahearne "passed" on this letter since he was
not involved in Chairman's briefing by Mr. Keppler.)
Ref.-CR-82-57

Originating Office: EDO/I&E

cc>	SECY	OCA	OCM	OCM	OCM	CHEMP
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TEP	5/14/82	5/14/82	5/14/82	5/14/82	5/14/82	5/14/82