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June 13, 1985

The Honorable Nunzio Palladino  
 Chairman  
 United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
 Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in regard to the issue of control systems failure and pressurized thermal shock (PTS). This has been a matter about which we have communicated several times and I am pleased that significant progress has been made toward its resolution. At the same time I sense that there continues to be disagreement as to the seriousness of PTS and the steps necessary to adequately resolve it.

In view of the catastrophic consequences of a reactor pressure vessel failure, I believe every practical step should be taken to avoid it. For this reason I am recommending that the Commission establish an ad hoc panel of experts to assess the PTS hazard and the adequacy of the Commission's efforts to reduce it to an acceptable level.

Sincerely,

*M. K. Udall*

MORRIS K. UDALL  
 Chairman

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