



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

June 4, 1984

*HPA*

The Honorable Paul Sarbanes  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sarbanes:

Thank you for your recent letter on behalf of your constituent, James C. Morris, inquiring as to the status of a Commission decision on the restart of Three Mile Island Unit 1 (TMI-1).

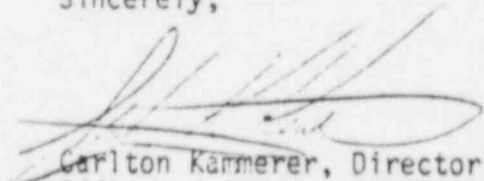
In a January 27, 1984 Memorandum to the Parties to the TMI-1 Restart Proceeding, the Commission set forth its tentative plan for issuing a decision on whether or not to lift the suspension of the operating license for TMI-1. The memorandum stated the Commission's hope to reach a decision by the end of June 1984.

On May 24, 1984, an NRC Appeal Board, which was reviewing the record of the special restart proceeding, issued its decision (ALAB-772) finding the Licensing Board record inadequate to permit an ultimate judgment on the management competence of the licensee, General Public Utilities, and remanding several issues to the Licensing Board for further hearings.

In view of the Appeal Board's decision, the Commission has decided to reconsider its schedule of steps to a decision on restart and, in particular, the question of whether the Commission should proceed with a decision on restart prior to completion of any Commission merits review of ALAB-772. On June 1, 1984, the Commission issued the enclosed order requesting the parties' comments on this question by close-of-business on June 15, 1984.

I hope that this information is helpful in responding to your constituent.

Sincerely,

  
Carlton Kärmerer, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:  
As stated