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PETITION RULE PRM 73-11
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January 14, 2002

Ms. Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: Docket No. PRM-73-11

Dear Ms. Vietti-Cook:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Springettsbury Township Board of Supervisors in support of the above-referenced Petition for Rulemaking submitted by Three Mile Island Alert proposing regulations mandating the presence of at least one armed guard at all entrance points to a nuclear energy facility.

The Springettsbury Township Board of Supervisors, representing approximately 23,000 residents within the 10-mile zone of Three Mile Island, is supportive of this very basic step. The Township recognizes the presence of existing armed security forces at the facility; however, this is a reactionary force designed, trained and equipped to respond to unauthorized intrusion onto the site, and does not deter the initial intrusion.

It is reasonable, indeed desirable, to take steps to deter any intrusion into the facility. The requirement for additional armed security personnel, in addition to the existing armed security officers, at the entrances and perimeter of a nuclear energy facility would provide necessary site and force protection capabilities, and would enhance the stated "defense in depth" security strategy of nuclear facilities.

Critical facilities, such as Three Mile Island, represent a significant source of concern for the community and governmental leaders in this area. Unauthorized intrusions, from a simple break-in to a terrorist attack, requires a massive mobilization of resources of local emergency management personnel, creates a climate of fear, and could lead to an incident with devastating consequences. Basic security steps, such as the posting of armed security personnel at the entranceways to nuclear facilities, is a relatively small, but necessary, step in improving site security.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your

Template = SECY-067

SECY-02

consideration in this matter.

Robert J. Sabatini, Jr.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Sabatini, Jr.
Township Manager/Secretary