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## **Three Mile Island Resources**

**Title:** Three Mile Island Alert Newsletters, 1987

**Date:** 1987

**Location:** TMI-TMIA

### **Contact:**

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Waidner-Spahr Library  
Dickinson College  
P.O. Box 1773  
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

[archives@dickinson.edu](mailto:archives@dickinson.edu)

**THREE MILE ISLAND**

# ALERT

January  
1987

315 Peffer Street; Harrisburg, PA 17102

TELEPHONE: 717-233-3072

## NRC Releases Revised EIS Statement on Water Disposal

The NRC recently revised its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the disposal of 2.1 million gallons of radioactive water generated by the TMI accident. The NRC views the following methods of disposal as being acceptable since the water "... can be disposed without incurring significant environmental impact." On or off-site evaporation, direct discharges into the Susquehanna River, on-site storage, bulk liquid shipment, direct solidification, crib storage at the Hanford waste disposal site, and injecting the water into "stable" caverns in Nevada. The only option the NRC is opposed to is the no-action alternative which allows the waste to be kept where it is until the radioactivity has decreased. GPU is pushing hard for evaporation or river discharges which would involve the release of tritium, cesium, and strontium into the atmosphere.

The TMI-Advisory Panel will discuss this EIS on Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lancaster Council Chambers, Public Safety Building, 201 N. Duke St., Lancaster. For a copy of the EIS, phone the NRC office in Middletown at 948-1120. Comments are due by February 28, 1987.

## UCS Targets B&W Reactors as Unsafe

by Vera Stuchinski

TMI Alert is joining with the Union of Concerned Scientists, elected officials and safe energy groups from around the country to file a petition with the NRC requesting that licenses and construction permits for all Babcox & Wilcox nuclear power plants be suspended. The petition asks that the license suspension remain in effect until: 1) the NRC completes its promised safety reassessment of the B&W design; 2) public hearings are held to determine modifications needed to bring B&W reactors up to an adequate level of safety; and, 3) the necessary safety modifications have been implemented. TMI is one of eight operating B&W plants; two more are under construction.

A RED X INDICATES  
YOUR DUES PAYMENT  
IS REQUESTED.

**THREE MILE ISLAND ALERT**  
315 Peffer Street  
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Federal law requires that the NRC allows operation of a nuclear power plant only if there is "reasonable assurance" of no "undue" risk to public health and safety. However, according to the NRC's own documents, B&W reactors have a design which makes them more sensitive to failures and accidents. They have continued to be subject to dangerous and complex accidents, even though required modifications were made to plant equipment and operator training since the 1979 accident at TMI.

The NRC has postponed its own safety research, turning responsibilities over to B&W and utilities that have B&W reactors. This B&W "owners group" has already told the NRC they do not promise to implement safety modifications that may arise out of their research.

You can help by writing to the following elected officials, who have been contacted by UCS, urging them to sign on to the petition to the NRC. Let them know that as a resident of the TMI area, you want more than empty assurances from the NRC. The NRC has already demonstrated in its research that B&W reactors--like TMI Unit 1--are more dangerous than other plant designs, and that nothing is being done to correct the deficiencies. Please act now. **Write:**

Gov. Robert Casey, Room 225, Main Capitol, Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Senator John Heinz, SR-443, Washington, D.C. 20510  
Senator Arlen Specter, SR-253A, Washington, D.C. 20510  
Congressman George Gekas, 1008 LHOB, Washington, D.C. 20515  
Senator John Shumaker, Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Representative Bruce Smith, Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Representative Peter Wambach, Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120  
Dauphin County Commissioners - Frederick S. Rice, Chairman; Larry J. Hochendoner, and Norman P. Hetrick, Court House, Front & Market Streets Harrisburg, PA 17101  
Cumberland County Commissioners - Marcia Myers, Chairman, Court House Hanover & High Streets, Carlisle, PA 17013  
Mayor Stephen Reed, 10 North Market Square, Harrisburg, PA 17101  
Reizdan B. Moore, President, Harrisburg City Council, 10 North Market Square, Harrisburg, PA 17101

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**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, THEN GIVE MORE TO SUPPORT TMIA ACTIVITIES**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Intervention Fund Contribution:     \$10     \$20     \$50     \$100     \$MORE (Checks in the amount of \$50 or more can be made payable to the TMI Legal Fund for tax deduction purposes.)

Membership:     \$15 Regular Membership     \$50 Sustaining Member  
    \$25 Non-Profit Organization     \$100 Patron  
    \$5 Low income, Student     \$200 Club Member  
    \$5 Non-member, newsletter subscription

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO TMIA, 315 Pepper St., Hbg. PA 17102



**TMIA Submits Comments to the NRC on Proposed Evacuation Changes**

by Eric Epstein

Evacuation planning and emergency planning have emerged as the Achilles' heels of the nuclear industry. After the TMI accident, the NRC established guidelines mandating approval of evacuation plans before a plant could go on line. Some governors have been able to postpone the operation of plants like Shoreham (New York), Perry (Ohio), and Seabrook (New Hampshire) by refusing to cooperate with the utilities' evacuation plans. Rep. Edward Markey (D-Mass.) recently proposed legislation to give governors the right to veto nuclear power plant licenses if they found fault with emergency planning. Elected officials and anti-nuclear activists have been able to exploit this issue due to the inherent flaws involved in plans for evacuating large populations in a timely and safe fashion.

TMIA's comments illustrate many of the deficiencies in GPU's evacuation plan including: incomplete plans for school children; no specific plans for the elderly, blind, or handicapped; poor evacuation routes; lack of compensation and training for farmers; poor performance during practice runs; and the inability of the medical community to deal with a major accident at TMI.

TMIA also argues that past history has demonstrated that the 10-mile evacuation zone is inadequate. On March 30, 1979, Governor Thornburgh recommended all pre-school children and pregnant women living within five miles of TMI evacuate the area. Incredibly, the relocation sites were just barely out of the 10-mile limit. Even more startling was the fact that with a target population of 3,500 living within five miles of TMI, as many as 200,000 people from up to 50 miles evacuated. Furthermore, in the case of Chernobyl, people were evacuated as far as 18 miles away.

The industry, spearheaded by Baltimore Gas and Electric (BG&E), is seeking to reduce the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) from 10 miles to two to make it much easier for utilities to comply with NRC standards. BG&E claims that the source term (amount of radiation released during a serious accident) has been miscalculated and would be much smaller than previously projected, thereby justifying a reduction in the EPZ. However, a utility executive recently stated in the **Patriot-News** that the proposed reduction was primarily a tool to hamper the efforts of anti-nuclear activists.

TMIA has joined with other safe energy groups in an effort to preserve and enlarge the 10-mile EPZ. A petition filed in 1982 asked the NRC to expand the EPZ to 20 miles. No decision was made on the petition. A more recent petition asked the NRC to implement site-specific EPZs. The size of the EPZ would be determined by meteorological and demographic data and also by source term data. TMIA is supporting both initiatives based on our experience with evacuation from the TMI accident.

**GIVE TMIA A VALENTINE!**

**Send an extra \$10 with your membership renewal.**

Members who have not renewed will receive phone-call reminders starting 2/11.



## Theories on Health Effects of Ionizing Radiation Debated

by Cherie Friedrich

At a two-day symposium on the health effects of ionizing radiation held in Washington in mid-December, different theories were advanced, discussed and debated by well-known scientists in the radiation health field.

There are three general hypotheses regarding ionizing radiation. The first, the threshold hypothesis, holds that a certain amount of radiation, now estimated at about five rems per year, must be accumulated before any damage is done. The second, the linear hypothesis, holds that any increase in exposure to radiation can cause damage and holds that a low continued exposure can cause greater damage than a short term higher exposure.

The third hypothesis, advanced by Dr. Karl Morgan, holds that there are more cancers per dose at low dose rates and that the carcinogenic effects of ionizing radiation are ten times greater than what was previously thought.

The effects of ionizing radiation on the body were also discussed at the symposium sponsored by the Health & Energy Institute and the Physicians for Social Responsibility. When a gamma ray passes through a cell, one of three things may happen:

1) The ray passes through the cell either missing the nucleus or causing so little damage that the nucleus is instantly repaired; 2) The cells are irreparably damaged and die; or, 3) The cell is damaged but functional or mis-repaired and its traits are passed on to future cells, which may become cancers. It is the body's repair mechanism or immune system that is at work and stressed by frequent or constant exposure to low doses.

In support of the super linear hypothesis, scientists reported various findings. For example, Dr. Karl Morgan said studies of Japanese atomic bomb victims placed the dose estimates too high. Dr. John Gofman noted that women working with radioactive paint, who had doses under 100 milirads, had statistically significant cancers. He also noted that Israeli children who were treated for scalp ringworm with X-ray doses of 7.5 rads had a marked excess of thyroid cancers. Dr. Hari Sharma noted that people wearing 1939 class rings made with uranium did not show problems until 1979.

### CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR

**Jan. 21, 7:00 p.m.** -- The **TMI Advisory Panel** to the NRC meets at the Lancaster Council Chambers, Public Safety Bldg., 201 N. Duke St., Lancaster. The NRC EIS on the disposal of radioactive water will be discussed. The public is invited.

**Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m.** -- The **TMI-PIRC Board** meets at the home of Bob Colman. Phone the TMIA office for details and directions.

**Feb. 4, 7:30 p.m.** -- **TMIA Planning Council** meets at the home of Cherie and Phil Friedrich, 203 Herr St., Harrisburg. Phone 238-6980 for directions.



MAR 17 1987

## THREE MILE ISLAND

# ALERT

MARCH  
1987

315 Pepper Street; Harrisburg, PA 17102

TELEPHONE: 717-233-3072

**TMI Waste Water Issue "Heats Up"** - On February 26, the NRC Advisory Panel held the second of three meetings concerning disposal of contaminated cleanup water from TMI Unit 2. The Panel wants to gauge the public's reaction to GPU's plan to evaporate the water before meeting with the Commissioners to give recommendations. GPU favors evaporating the 2.1 million gallons of radioactive water contaminated with strontium, cesium, and tritium (an element that bonds with water and cannot be removed). If GPU's plan is approved by the NRC, the contaminated water will be steadily dispersed to the environment as radioactive steam in a slow-boil evaporation process that will take two to three years to complete. The residue left at the bottom of the evaporator will be packaged as low-level waste and shipped to Hanford or another low level radwaste site.

The NRC staff is expected to endorse GPU's evaporation proposal. The utility has already received approval from the Department of Energy for additional disposal space needed for the residue. The NRC just may rubber-stamp the utility's proposal when the Commissioners meet in April.

As usual, several major considerations have not been addressed: (1) There may be additional elements in the water for which the NRC has not tested or is ignoring as "below regulatory concern;" (2) A meteorological study was not done to determine which areas would receive the most exposure; (3) Psychological stress has not been considered; (4) There are no plans for additional monitoring by the NRC, DER or EPA, and; (5) If approved, a precedent would be set for GPU to evaporate additional wastes.

Please do not be complaisant about this issue. The Advisory Panel will reflect our views to the Commissioners. Originally, the Panel had planned to have only one meeting on the disposal issue. Because of public dissatisfaction with the NRC and GPU's plans, the Panel asked the NRC for additional time to adequately study the matter before they address the Commissioners.

COME TO THE NEXT ADVISORY PANEL MEETING, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR 6 PM AT THE HOLIDAY INN, 2ND AND CHESTNUTS STREETS, HARRISBURG, ON MARCH 25. (TMIA will send notices if the place or time are changed.) TMIA and the Susquehanna Valley Alliance are inviting experts to testify and will raise questions about the safety of GPU's proposed evaporation process. Let us know how you feel about the disposal issue so TMIA can adequately reflect the members' views. Please attend the March 25 meeting. Remember, we didn't make the mess, we've suffered from it long enough, and we don't want to be dumped on again.

by Vera Stuchinski

**TMI Alert's 10th Anniversary Celebration Slated** - Though you'll find details elsewhere in this newsletter, mark your calendar right this minute and make your reservations for TMI Alert's 10th Anniversary celebration on March 26. It's a perfect time to be reunited with folks you've met and marched with in the eight years since the accident. Put the announcement on the refrigerator door, send in your reservation, and be there.

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**NRC Denies Petition on It's Failure to Establish Training Requirements** - The NRC has rejected TMIA's argument that the agency has not met requirements for training nuclear power plant operators.

This summer TMIA joined Public Citizen as a co-plaintiff in an action against the NRC. The case focused on the NRC's failure to comply with provisions of the 1982 Waste Policy Act, which directs the agency to "develop and implement guidelines for training programs for nuclear power operators and other workers at nuclear facilities." The suit alleged the NRC turned this responsibility over to the industry's Institute for Nuclear Power Operations (INPO). INPO's program was behind schedule and the quality of the program was in question. In addition, INPO's records were inaccessible to the public. On February 2, 1987, **The Federal Register** announced the NRC denied the petition and "...believes that the industry's efforts to date have been productive. NRC has increased confidence in the industry's training process...."

by Eric Epstein

**NRC Considering Changes in Evacuation Plan Rules** - Two initiatives launched by the nuclear industry to reduce the Emergency Planning Zones (EPZ) around nuclear power plants are under consideration by the NRC. The owners of Seabrook are asking the NRC to shrink their EPZ down to just one mile. Closer to home, Baltimore Gas and Electric wants their EPZ scaled down from ten to two miles.

Even more alarming is a recent proposal by the NRC staff to allow nuclear power plants to operate where state and local governments refuse to participate or sanction the emergency planning process. The proposed rule change is designed to expedite the stalled licensing process at Shoreham and Seabrook. As the rule now stands, a utility must demonstrate that "adequate protective measures can and will be taken" during an accident. The rule change would grant utilities a great deal of flexibility since they would only have to demonstrate that they have taken "reasonable" and "feasible" actions to compensate for a lack of state and/or local plans.

It is extremely important that we contact elected officials, especially Gov. Bob Casey and Lt. Gov. Mark Singel, and urge them to oppose the NRC's proposed rule change on evacuation planning. Rather than being reduced, EPZs should be expanded from the current ten-miles to include populations within at least 20 miles of a nuclear plant for "high risk" areas. Currently Harrisburg, York, and Lancaster are without evacuation plans.

Write to: Governor Robert P. Casey  
Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Lt. Governor Mark Singel  
Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Call TMIA for a copy of its comments submitted to the NRC on this issue.

by Eric Epstein

**Full-Page Advertisement Urges TMI Shutdown** - A full-page newspaper advertisement in local papers recently called for the shutdown of TMI Unit 1 and nine other Babcock & Wilcox design reactors, all of which have design flaws. Unlike other U.S. nuclear power plants, the B&W 10 use a unique "once-through" steam generator. A small change in the flow of feedwater through the generator can rapidly lead to a large change in the temperature of the water that cools the reactor itself. A device called a pressurizer is supposed to insure that subsequent changes in pressure don't get out of hand. But in B&W reactors, according to NRC experts, the pressurizer is too small. As the temperature soars, pressure builds inside the reactor vessel and an accident could be only moments away.

--continued--

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**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, THEN GIVE MORE TO SUPPORT TMIA ACTIVITIES**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ \$5 Low income, Student ☐ \$200 Club Member  
☐ \$5 Non-member, newsletter subscription

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The ad, placed by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), conveys this information and notes the NRC's failure to take corrective action. UCS has filed a "petition for relief" demanding that the NRC close all ten B&W plants and suspend operating licenses until the safety problems are corrected. The ad included forms for voicing concerns to U.S. Rep. George Gekas and Gov. Casey.

**Thanks "Booth Tenders"** - Thanks to the TMIA members who tended TMIA's table at "Community Days" at the Harrisburg East Mall on March 6 and 7. Thanks to Paul Lujanic, Cathie Musser, Charles Leising, Cherie Friedrich, Kay Pickering, Vera Stuchinski, Eric Epstein, Bill Cologie, Deb Fetterman, Pat Metzgar, Ron Blough and his son, Ruth Gentle and Dan Welliver.

**TMIA Documents Drug Abuse in the Nuclear Industry** - TMIA co-released a report with the Critical Mass Energy Project detailing widespread drug and alcohol abuse in the nuclear industry. The report, "Nuclear Power Going to Pot: Drug and Alcohol Abuse at Nuclear Power Plants," documented drug and alcohol incidents at almost every plant in the country, including four separate incidents at TMI. Among the most glaring developments:

- o During construction of the Seabrook nuclear power plant in Seabrook, New Hampshire, 289 workers were fired for drug and alcohol abuse. Forty-four others were cited for drug and alcohol abuse.

- o In 1986, an undercover operation by the North Carolina Bureau of Investigation resulted in the arrest of eight Shearon Harris nuclear plant workers. However, a sheriff's deputy involved in the investigation testified that he saw at least 100 persons using drugs and suspected over 100 others, although he was only on duty for one shift over a two-month period. He made his first drug purchase within an hour-and-a-half of his arrival on the site.

- o In June 1985, an undercover drug investigation at the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant resulted in the arrest of nine employees. The workers were charged with felony sale of cocaine, marijuana and amphetamines.

- o In February 1984, an individual was found unconscious in a lavatory outside one plant's radwaste building. Because of the physical evidence found near the individual, drug overdose was suspected and later confirmed by hospital tests. The individual, who denied drug use, was employed by a subcontractor engaged in placing thermal insulation on various safety-related and non-safety related piping.

- o In September 1986, GPU suspended site access of two personnel--a senior reactor operator (SRO) and a shift clerk at the Oyster Creek plant. GPU informed the NRC, but did not indicate that one individual was an SRO.

**New Bumper Stickers Available** - A new supply of the "Shut Down TMI" bumper stickers, with the message in bright red on a yellow background, just arrived at the TMIA office. Order yours at \$1.00 each, or order six for \$5.00.

**HELLO Zackery Behney!** - Proud parents Nancy and Mike Behney announce the birth of Zackery on February 12th. He weighed 7lb. 11ozs. and is doing very well.

**Remember Chernobyl Concert Slated** - On Sunday afternoon, April 26, Marcia Taylor of Bright Morning Star will perform in concert at the YWCA, 215 Market Street, Harrisburg. There's a 1:00 p.m. brunch and the concert is at 3:00. We'll have more details next month.

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**-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-**

**March 14, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.** - Daylong workshop, Reassessing Nuclear Power, East Hartford, CT. Many speakers including TMIA's Jane Lee, Mary Osborn, Jeff Newman and Marvin Lewis. Call TMIA for more information.

**March 25, 6 to 10 p.m.** - TMI Advisory Panel to the NRC meets at the Holiday Inn, 2nd & Chestnut Streets, Harrisburg.

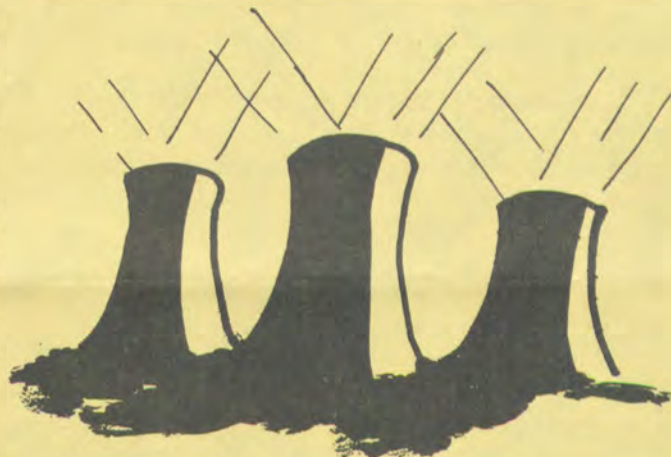
**March 26, 6:30 p.m.** - TMIA 10th Anniversary Celebration

**March 27, 10 a.m.** - TMIA Press Conference at the Capitol Rotunda

**March 28 - Eight years since the accident at TMI Unit 2.** SVA plans a pot-luck supper - Call 872-0803 for more information.

**April 3 & 4 - RADON: Risks, Implications and Technology,** a workshop sponsored by the Susquehanna Valley Health Physics Assn., the American Medical Assn. and the EPA. \$45 overall, \$5 just Saturday. TMIA has additional information.





You are invited to  
**TMI Alert's**  
**10th Anniversary**  
**Celebration**

**Thursday, March 26, 1987**

**Spaghetti Dinner 6:30 P.M.**

**Program with Speakers 8:00 P.M.**

**Lakeside Lutheran Church - Fellowship Hall**

**Green & Division Streets**

**Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

-----Cut Here-----

Yes, I/we can attend the Spaghetti Dinner. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ dinners.  
I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ dinners (at  
\$8.00 each). Number of children under 8 attending \_\_\_\_\_ (children under 8  
may attend free).

No, I/we cannot come, but here is my tax deductible donation  
to "TMI Legal Fund" and my donation "TMIA" to help with on-going  
office expenses \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: TMI Alert, 315 Peffer Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102 Phone: 233-7897



**THREE MILE ISLAND**

# ALERT

APRIL  
1987

315 Pepper Street; Harrisburg, PA 17102

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**Send A Penny to Congress!** - Congress is now reconsidering the Price-Anderson Act which establishes the limits of liability on involved parties stemming from a nuclear power plant accident. Currently, government contractors would not have to pay one cent if they were to cause an accident. The Environmental Policy Institute has asked people to send a penny to Congress with a note pointing out that one penny is more than G.E., Westinghouse or any of the large nuclear contractors would pay for public damages if they cause a nuclear accident. Congress is expected to vote on renewal of the Price-Anderson Act this summer.

**TMIA Tenth Anniversary Observed** - A 10th anniversary dinner at Lakeside Lutheran Church brought out dozens of TMIA friends, volunteers and supporters for a night of celebration of the group's ten years of safe energy activism. Bob Pollard, a former Nuclear Regulatory Commission employee now on the staff of the Union of Concerned Scientists, told the group how important their contributions are to the work he is trying to do on the national level. In his keynote address Pollard said local activists are the key to making the nuclear industry honest.

State Representative Pete Wambach, who presented a citation from the House of Representatives noting the "exceptional efforts and activities" of TMIA over the past ten years, was just one of a number of local public officials on hand to congratulate TMIA's officers and members and to reaffirm support for the organization's goals.

Perhaps the highlight of the evening was a sustained standing ovation for Kay Pickering for all her contributions to TMIA over the years.

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**TMIA Active in Tri-State Clean Air Effort** - TMIA Chairwoman Vera Stuchinski represented the organization at an April 4 meeting of safe energy groups from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware, sponsored by the Clean Air Council in Philadelphia. Many issues were brought to the table at this initial information sharing session. The group hopes to form a strong networking coalition that can act on issues related to all groups.

**Immediate Action Needed on Radioactive Water Issue** - The disposal of 2.1 million gallons of accident-generated, radioactive water is still up in the air. On March 25 the TMI Advisory Panel unanimously voted to oppose dumping the water into the Susquehanna River. On a closer vote, they voted 5-4-1 to oppose evaporation. The panel travels to Washington on April 16 to meet with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It is imperative that we contact all five Commissioners and express opposition to evaporation and dumping. Many in the area have indicated a willingness to have the water stored on the island, where it can be contained and monitored, until a safer method of disposal can be developed. Also, the water could be shipped to Hanford, Washington or the Nevada Test Site. The five commissioners are: Zech (Chairman), Asselstine, Roberts, Bernthal, and Carr, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555.

**Urgent Action Needed as NRC Seeks to Eliminate Emergency Planning Requirements** - The NRC is in the process of reducing the current 10-mile radius for emergency planning, to perhaps as little as one to five miles. In addition, the Commission is also looking to eliminate the requirement that local governments participate in the development of offsite emergency plans.

Considering people were immediately evacuated from a distance of 18 miles during the Chernobyl accident (which we have since learned wasn't far enough), it is clear the NRC's proposal is pure folly designed solely for the benefit of the nuclear industry. The second proposal, aimed clearly at sidestepping the responsible local officials who, through their refusal to develop evacuation plans around the Shoreham (New York) and Seabrook (New Hampshire), have kept plants from operating. The NRC is prepared to accept a utility's "best efforts" to ensure public protection.

Write opposing the proposed rule change (cited as: 10 CFR Part 50) to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555 Attention: Docketing and Service Branch. Also write to Gov. Casey and Lt. Gov. Singel (Main Capitol, Hbg. 17120), Sen. Heinz and Specter (U.S. Senate, D.C. 20500), and Congressmen Gekas and Goodling (House of Reps. D.C. 20515). PLEASE WRITE: The NRC is counting on public apathy. For more information call TMIA.

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**Financial Report - December 31, 1986**

Cash in checking account     \$402.39  
 Cash in savings account     380.10

**INCOME**

Memberships	4176.00
Donations	4051.31
Sales	443.28
Interest Earned	44.70
Fund Raising	659.62
(Raffle, Picnic, etc.)	
April Workshop	206.54
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$9581.45</b>

**EXPENDITURES**

Telephone	1887.29
Rent	869.50
Office Expenses	311.50
Media Consultant	1015.86
Purchases	502.84
Fund Raising Conslt.	860.00
Printing	1852.31
Postage	1450.88
Gen'l Expenses	518.45
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$9268.63</b>

**Remember Chernobyl Concert April 26** - On Sunday afternoon, April 26, Marcia Taylor of Bright Morning Star will perform in concert at the YWCA Auditorium, 215 Market Street, Harrisburg. There's a 1:00 p.m. brunch catered by the Sassy Gourmet (by reservation only, call 545-3712 by April 18) and the concert is at 3:00 PM.

**Clark University Team Researching Emergency Plans** - TMIA, Concerned Mothers, and TMI PIRC representatives met April 8th with researchers preparing a state-of-the-art emergency response plan. Roger Kasperson and Dominic Golding of Clark University described a two-year project that will regularly solicit the input of TMI-area residents. The first report, which evaluates existing emergency plans is due May 1, 1987. A final plan is due November 1, 1988. The \$600,000 project is funded by the TMI Health Fund.

Anyone who would like to be on the project mailing list should contact Dominic Golding at 617/793-7303 or by writing: Hazard Assessment Group, Clark University, 950 Main Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, 01610-1477.

**Kennedy Holds Hearings on Chernobyl's Health Effects - Why Not TMI's?** - The U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Public Health, chaired by Sen. Ted Kennedy, held hearings in January, 1987 on the health effects of the Chernobyl accident. Safe energy groups in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Jersey are writing letters to Sen. Kennedy (and their own U.S. Senators) asking that similar hearings be held on health effects from the TMI accident. Write of your concerns and personal experiences to Senators Kennedy, Specter and Heinz, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. TMIA has a sample letter available.

**2nd Annual Summer Solstice Benefit June 20** - Keep Saturday, June 20 open in your date book for TMIA's bluegrass/folk happening. The benefit begins at 1:00 p.m. at Eric Epstein's land in Perry County and ends sometime in the evening. Featured musicians include Jay Smar, Robyn and Steve Chambers, and Trick Bag. Beer and munchies will be provided. Requested donation is \$10.00.



**Maryland Group Calls for Peach Bottom Hearings** - The Maryland Nuclear Safety Coalition is urging the NRC to hold public hearings on Peach Bottom (to which Maryland and Pennsylvania would be parties) to review the range of generic flaws, including containment and mismanagement problems. Individuals should write to the NRC and Gov. Casey (see "Water" story).

**Pa. Consumer Advocate Calls for Halt to Limerick-2** - Even before the Phila. Electric Company's management problems were exposed with the NRC's unprecedented shutdown of Peach Bottom, state consumer advocate David Barasch had petitioned the Public Utility Commission claiming new information proves completion of Limerick-2 would be uneconomical to state ratepayers. Last year the PUC approved, by a 2-1 vote, continued construction of the \$4.9 billion plant, but both commissioners voting for the project expressed reservations. Voice your support for the consumer advocate's petition, docket #870213, in letters to PUC Chairman Linda Taliaferro, PO Box 3265, Hbg. PA 17120 or to Gov. Robert P. Casey.

**Correction** - Last month we offered bumper stickers reading "Shut Down TMI." Anyone who has seen them can tell you they actually say "Shut T.M.I." They are in bright red and yellow and available at \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00.

**-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-**

- April 25** - Bus trip to Washington, D.C. for March and Rally, Mobilization for Justice and Peace in Central America and South Africa. Bus departs from Camp Hill Shopping Center 7:00 AM. For reservations phone Curt Sanders 732-2422.
- April 26** - Remember Chernobyl Concert - see below.
- June 20** - 2nd Annual Summer Solstice Picnic to Benefit TMIA at the home of Eric Epstein, 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.

*Marcia Taylor*

*in concert at the YWCA*

**SUNDAY APRIL 26<sup>th</sup> 1987 3:00 P.M.**

 **#3<sup>rd</sup> admission** 

**1:00 P.M. BRUNCH BY RESERVATION ONLY!**  
**CATERED BY SASSY GOURMET**  
**(RSVP BY APRIL 18<sup>th</sup>) call 545-3712**



## THREE MILE ISLAND

# ALERT

JUNE  
1987

315 Pepper Street; Harrisburg, PA 17102

TELEPHONE: 717-233-3072

**Second Annual Summer Solstice Benefit for TMI-Alert Scheduled** - TMIA will host a bluegrass-folk music happening on Saturday, June 20 at Eric Epstein's land in Perry County. The picnic will begin at 1:00 p.m. and last until dark. Music, beginning at 3:00 p.m., will be provided by Jay Smar, Robyn and Steve Chambers, Trick Bag and others.

Tickets at \$10.00 each are available from TMIA and include vegetarian food, chicken, non-alcoholic beverages and all the beer you care to drink. Please contact TMIA in advance if you'll be bringing a covered dish or desert.

To get there, take U.S. 322 West, crossing the Clarks Ferry Bridge, to U.S. 11/15 North. In Liverpool (about 12 miles north of the 322/11 intersection) turn through the parking lot of Lowe's Restaurant. Turn right, go five feet and turn left. Sign will read: Centerville 3 Newport 11. Go 9/10th of a mile. TURN LEFT. Second lane on the LEFT. If you are lost, call Eric's at 444-2173. There's no rain date. If the weather looks bad, call 444-2173 for alternate plans. CALL TMIA AT 717/233-7897 FOR TICKETS.

**GPU Declares First Cash Dividend Since the Accident** - On May 29, General Public Utilities paid a 15 cents dividend to its shareholders for each share of common stock. The dividend, the first paid to holders of common stock since the 1979 accident, was said to be a reward for the progress made in the clean-up of Unit 2.

The decision to issue the dividend comes at a time when continued federal funding for the cleanup is in doubt. More importantly, there are no assurances that Unit 2 will be completely cleaned up, decontaminated, and decommissioned. In fact, the next phase of the cleanup, dubbed as the "Post-Defueling Monitored Stage" by GPU, allows the utility to maintain a skeletal work force while Unit 2 remains highly radioactive.

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YOUR DUES PAYMENT  
IS REQUESTED

**Three Mile Island Alert**  
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Harrisburg, PA 17102

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**O'Leary Replaces Kuhns as GPU Chairman** - John O'Leary, former Deputy Secretary of the Interior in the Carter Administration, is the new Chairman of the Board at GPU. O'Leary replaces retiring GPU nuclear czar William Kuhns who will continue to serve as a member of GPU's Board.

On May 14, in a speech at the GPU shareholders meeting in Whippany, New Jersey, O'Leary declared that, "We (GPU) must not stumble again," but most of the speech focused on the positive aspects of deregulation in utility-related industries. O'Leary was confident that there were major changes "in the wind over the next four or five years" for the nuclear industry. He declared, "I suspect that the long segments of the umbrella of regulation of the nuclear industry may not be done away with, but will be radically changed." He added that he viewed the deregulation of nuclear power as a positive "challenge."

by Eric Epstein

**Letters Still Needed on Price-Anderson Revision** - If you have not yet written your member of Congress regarding the renewal of the Price-Anderson Act, please do so soon. The nuclear power industry is mounting a massive lobbying effort which must be met by an increase in the pressure on members of Congress by those concerned with safe energy as Congress is expected to enact the renewal legislation during June or July.

Five bills, two in the House and three in the Senate, have been introduced. The most important of these is the House bill, H.R. 2141 introduced by Representatives Dennis Eckart (D-OH), Edward Markey (D-MA), and Al Swift (D-WA) along with at least 35 co-sponsors. This bill incorporates all the provisions for which the safe-energy lobby has been fighting: full victim compensation, contractor liability, and taxpayer protection.

Please write now and ask your Representative to support H.R. 2141. The TMIA office has sample letters available.

**Commissioner Roberts Investigated** - The Justice Department is investigating possible criminal actions by Nuclear Regulatory Commission member Thomas Roberts. Roberts, a former campaign fund-raiser for George Bush who was appointed to the NRC in 1981, has been accused of alerting officials of the Louisiana Power and Light Company of a secret investigation of the utility (leading to a subsequent cover-up and the destruction of evidence). Roberts refused to answer questions during a May 6 Senate hearing (as his counsel was not present) and other investigations of the NRC's "coziness" with the industry are underway in both the House and Senate.

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**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, THEN GIVE MORE TO SUPPORT TMIA ACTIVITIES**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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       \$5 Low income, Student        \$200 Club Member  
       \$5 Non-member, newsletter subscription

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO TMIA, 315 Peffer St., Hbg. PA 17102



**So What Else is New Department: Former DOJ Official Says NRC is Crooked -** Attorney Julian Greenspun, who served with the Justice Department's Criminal Division from 1979 to 1986, testified before the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, "...I know of no other regulatory agency where senior agency officials have taken as many bizarre and seemingly deliberate actions intended to hamper the investigation and prosecution of individuals and companies in the industry the agency regulates." Greenspun, recently interviewed by **The Corporate Crime Reporter** (May 11, 1987 edition, Volume 1, number 5), says not only are actions taken to "discourage field inspectors from reporting or aggressively following up on violations, they spot," but that at times the NRC throws "monkey wrenches into those investigations by making gratuitous, exonerating statements concerning the subject's conduct, by tipping off subjects as to the direction and scope of an investigation..." Copies of the Greenspun interview are available upon request from TMIA.

**Advisory Panel to Discuss Water Disposal** - The TMI Advisory Panel for the Decontamination of TMI Unit 2 will meet Wednesday, June 10, 1987 from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. in Lancaster to discuss the water disposal question.

In a letter to TMIA regarding the meeting, Lancaster Mayor and Panel Chairman Arthur Morris said: "The Panel must take up the timing of a decision on the water disposal question; the NRC has specifically requested such input from us. Also, we will need to talk about the cleanup schedule and budget of cleanup as a result of the recent announcement by GPU of their slippage of 6-9 months on fuel removal...it will not be possible to make the status of present and future monitoring the focus of our agenda. It will be placed on the agenda, however, and will, I am sure, get considerable discussion."

Please plan to attend this important meeting. It will be held in the Lancaster City Council Chambers, Public Safety Building, 201 North Duke Street, Lancaster. Call Kay Pickering at the TMIA office if you'd be interested in carpooling to the meeting.

**Volunteer Boothtenders Needed for July 4 Riverfront Fest** - Call Kay Pickering at the TMIA Office (233-7897) if you are interested in helping to staff a TMIA literature table at the riverfront during the three-day July 4 activities.

**GPU Didn't Make Required Improvements During Recent Refueling Shutdown** - TMI Alert has discovered that General Public Utilities failed to make required improvements to the emergency feedwater system during the recent refueling shutdown. The NRC has falsely reported that the changes were made. TMIA and the Union of Concerned Scientists are working with elected officials to force the NRC to shut down Unit 1 until the required modifications are made.

**On a personal note - Kay Pickering writes:** I was surprised, overwhelmed and felt tears well up in my eyes when the members of TMIA honored me at the 10th Anniversary observance on March 26. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard on the very impressive and beautifully handmade wall hanging and the lovely floral arrangement---Vera Stuchinski, Karen Newman, Phyllis Zitzer and others.



**Article on TMI Accident Health Effects Appears in May/June Harrowsmith -**

Investigative reporter Harvey Wasserman, relying on the research of "civilian epidemiologists" Jane Lee and Majorie Aamodt put together an 8000 word article in the May/June issue of **Harrowsmith** to, in the words of a magazine publicist, "dispel the myths of Three Mile Island."

Wasserman writes of a region traumatized by frightening health problems: cancers, leukemia, birth defects, still births, spontaneous abortions, hypothyroidism, "and a wide range of other diseases that have stricken them, their children, their farm animals and even the foliage around them."

Copies of the article are available from the TMIA office (233-7897).

**For Your Consideration Department:** It seems clear that we have given nuclear power a fair trial and that its promise falls far short of even the most modest hopes. The earth is not large enough to accomodate this technology; political systems cannot manage it; and although scientists and technologists may have performed admirably, they have not been able to solve the fundamental problems of contamination of an imperfectly run world. The verdict is the same even if we consider economic problems, climatic changes due to carbon dioxide increases caused by fossil fuels, and the apparent pressures on global energy supplies. These problems can be resolved without nuclear power--and will be, if there is to be a future for industrial civilizations.

Nuclear energy can be systematically and deliberately abandoned as a potential source of power. The transition need not be abrupt--it cannot be. Existing power plants can be closed permanently at the end of their useful lives without being dismantled. When it is safe to do so, they can be sealed in place without the risk inherent in dismantling them and futher handling of their massive inventories of radioactivity. Immediate demands for energy can be met through intensified efforts at conservation. Longer-term needs can tap the only enduring resource available now, the sun.

Dr. George M. Woodwell, from "Chernobyl: A Technology That Failed" in the Fall, 1986 issue of Science and Technology.

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**-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-**

- June 3 -** 7:30 PM **TMIA Planning Council** meets at the home of Cherie Friedrich, 203 Harris Street, Harrisburg.
- June 10 -** 7:00 PM **TMI Advisory Panel** meets, Lancaster Council Chambers, Public Safety Building, 201 N. Duke St. Lancaster (see details above).
- June 13 -** 10:30 AM regional network meeting coordinated by **Clear Air Council**, call Vera Stuchinski if you'd like to attend, 233-7897.
- June 20 -** 1:00 PM until dark - **Second Annual Summer Solstice to Benefit TMIA**  
See above for details.
- September 26 - October 3 -** First Global Radiation Victims Conference, New York City, sponsored by the Health & Energy Institute, Washington, D.C.  
Call TMIA office for more information (233-7897).



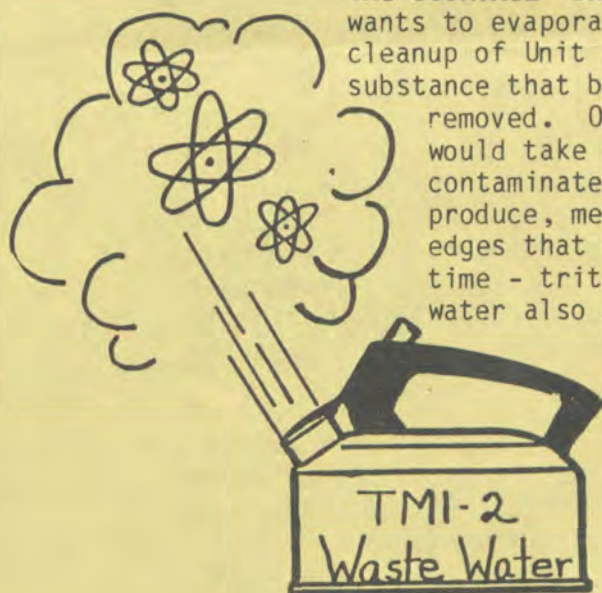
## THREE MILE ISLAND

# ALERT

JULY  
1987

315 Pepper Street; Harrisburg, PA 17102

TELEPHONE: 717-233-3072



**"TMI COCKTAIL" DRINKING CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH** - GPU wants to evaporate 2.1 million gallons of waste water from the cleanup of Unit 2. This water contains tritium, a radioactive substance that bonds chemically with water and cannot be removed. Once evaporated (in a slow boil process which would take over 2 years), the tritiated-water (HTO) will contaminate our air and be ingested through water, local produce, meat, fish & dairy products. The NRC acknowledges that the water will remain radioactive for a long time - tritium has a hazardous life of 120-130 years. The water also contains cesium and strontium, long-lived radionuclides. The NRC agrees that additional cancers will result from evaporation of the water, but insists that they will be very few.

What you can do: Call or write the NRC and tell them you do not want this water evaporated into the atmosphere. Call or write Governor Casey and our elected representatives and tell them you want them

to prevent GPU from submitting us to more radioactive emissions. Write letters to the editor of the **Patriot & Evening News**.

Governor Robert P. Casey - Phone: Governor's Action Center  
1-800-932-0784

Lt. Gov. Mark Singel - Write: Main Capitol Bldg., Hbg. PA 17120

Senator John Heinz - Phone: 233-5849 or (202) 224-6324 (Washington)

Senator Arlen Specter - Phone: 782-3951 or (202) 224-4254 (Washington)  
Write: U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510

Congressman George Gekas - Phone: 232-5123 or (202) 225-4315 (Washington)

Chairman Lando Zech - Phone: (202) 634-1461  
Write: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

**TMIA & SVA JOIN FORCES ON EVAPORTION ISSUE** - On July 15, the NRC staff recommended the Commissioners approve GPU's plan to evaporate the 2.1 million gallons of radioactive waste water. The Commissioners will consider requests for a public hearing.

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On July 8, the TMIA Planning Council voted unanimously on a course of action to follow should the NRC endorse GPU's evaporation proposal. TMIA will, in conjunction with the Susquehanna Valley Alliance (SVA), request full public hearings. If hearings are denied, or the NRC rules in favor of evaporation, TMIA and SVA will jointly take the case to federal court.

Any additional contamination of the environment and exposure to citizens from the release of radioactive material from TMI is unacceptable. As TMIA prepares for a round of NRC hearings and a very likely court battle, we need your support. Please stay tuned. Your contributions of money, time & positive energy are much appreciated.

Vera Stuchinski, Chairperson

**PRICE-ANDERSON HEADED FOR A VOTE** - As this newsletter goes to press, the House of Representatives is preparing to vote on a bill, H.R. 1414, which is supported by the nuclear industry. This bill leaves contractors for the nuclear industry free from liability for accidents they cause. It also puts a cap on the victim compensation fund, which means taxpayers will be ultimately responsible for paying damages from a nuclear accident. The vote is expected at the end of July. Some attempts are being made to amend the bill.

**NIX ON REAGAN'S NRC NOMINEE** - President Reagan has nominated Kenneth Rogers to fill James Asselstine's vacant seat on the Commission. Rogers is a paid member of the board of directors of Public Service Electric & Gas Co., the utility that owns shares in three nuclear power plants, including Peach Bottom. Rogers can hardly be a fair and impartial regulator of the industry with which he is intimately involved.

Write to the chairman of the Nuclear Regulation Subcommittee, John Breaux, and the chairman of the Environment Committee, Quentin Burdick (U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20515). Their committees will consider the nomination before it is voted on by the entire Senate. Also write to Senators Heinz and Specter, urging them to join the twenty senators who have written to Reagan, asking that James Asselstine be reappointed.

**WORKER SUES PEACH BOTTOM** - A former health physics technician at Peach Bottom is suing the utility for \$5 million because they vented radioactive gas into the tunnel where he was working, in order to keep the plant operating. His radiation detectors went off scale. The utility denied that he was overexposed, and fired him when he pursued the matter.

**NEWS NOTES** - The Three Mile Island Public Health Fund has recently been authorized to organize a new set of projects around unresolved questions pertaining to the measurement of radioactivity at the 1979 nuclear reactor accident. Consequently, the Fund is tracking down as much new information as possible. The Fund would like to hear from individuals who have either monitored radioactivity on their own or are aware of unpublished radiation data. Thus, if you have used film badges or monitors in your work or know of any observations, please send all information to Dr. Jan Beyea, Principal Investigator, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.

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**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, THEN GIVE MORE TO SUPPORT TMIA ACTIVITIES**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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       \$5 Non-member, newsletter subscription

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO TMIA, 315 Peffer St., Hbg. PA 17102



The Summer Solstice event at the home of Eric Epstein in Perry County was great fun and a nice fundraiser. Thanks to Eric and all those who contributed to the success.

Cherie Friedrich has accepted a full-time job on Capitol Hill. Best wishes to Cherie in her new endeavor.

Dan Welliver has taken on the responsibility of checking the hourly radiation monitor computer printouts on a weekly basis at the Dauphin County Emergency Management Agency office. Are there volunteers willing to assist Dan?


Vera Stuchinski attended the Clean Air Council's Radiation Concerns Network meeting in Philadelphia on July 18. Information was shared on regional activities. The Network is developing strategies concerning national nuclear issues. Lobbying tactics were developed for pending legislation.

Women's Center has an area exclusive - cassette tapes by Wild Women for Peace, one of the musical groups which traveled with the Great Peace March as it trekked across the country last year. The tape, entitled "The Great Peace March: Songs from the Road," was recorded at a live concert in Bedford, PA. It contains many of the songs Wild Women played at the Harrisburg Concert last fall. The tape is \$8.50, including postage and handling. Checks should be made payable to the Women's Center and sent to P.O. Box 10530, Hbg., PA 17105. All the proceeds benefit peace, justice, and women's organizations.

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**CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR-CALENDAR**

- August 2 - 6:30 PM - "Health Effects - Hiroshima to Chernobyl" an address by Mary Osborn, exhibit & proclamation by Mayor Reed. Atrium of City Government Center.
- August 4 - 7:30 PM - TMIA Planning Council meets at the TMIA office, 315 Pepper Street, Harrisburg.
- August 6 - 7:30 PM - Hiroshima Day "Candles on the Water" - interfaith worship and ceremonial candle float on the Susquehanna - Fellowship Hall, Market Square Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg.
- August 9 - 6:30 PM - Nagasaki Day - program "The Survivors After a Nuclear Holocaust", poetry & music. Salem United Church of Christ, 231 Chestnut Street, Harrisburg.
- August 12 - 7 to 10 PM TMI Advisory Panel meets, Holiday Inn Town, 2nd & Chestnut Streets, Harrisburg. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO SPEAK.
- September 26 to October 3 - First Global Radiation Victims Conference, New York City, sponsored by the Health & Energy Institute, Washington, DC. Call TMIA office for more information (233-7897).





**42 YEARS**

**IN A NIGHTMARE**

HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI

COMMEMORATING THE BOMBINGS OF

**SUNDAY AUG. 2**  
**6:30 P.M.**

ATRIUM OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
CITY GOVERNMENT CENTER

**"HEALTH EFFECTS - HIROSHIMA  
TO CHERNOBYL"** AN ADDRESS BY  
INTERNATIONAL LECTURER **MARY OSBORN**

**EXHIBIT: AN ILLUSTRATED ACCOUNT OF THE  
HIROSHIMA-NAGASAKI BOMBINGS**

**PROCLAMATION: BY THE HONORABLE STEPHEN R. REED**  
MAYOR OF HARRISBURG

- REFRESHMENTS -

**THURSDAY AUG. 6**  
**HIROSHIMA DAY**  
**7:30 P.M.**

MEET AT FELLOWSHIP HALL,  
MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
HARRISBURG

**"CANDLES ON THE WATER"**

INTERFAITH WORSHIP AND REFLECTION  
WITH AREA CLERGY PARTICIPATING.  
COMMEMORATION CULMINATES WITH  
TRADITIONAL JAPANESE CEREMONIAL  
CANDLES FLOATING ON THE SUSQUEHANNA.

SPONSORED BY THE HARRISBURG-HIROSHIMA-  
NAGASAKI COMMITTEE AND INTERRELIGIOUS  
FORUM

**SUNDAY AUG. 9**  
**NAGASAKI DAY**  
**6:30 P.M.**

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
231 CHESTNUT ST., HARRISBURG

**PAUL JAY FINK, M.D.**

CHAIRMAN, DEPT. OF PSYCHIATRY  
ALBERT EINSTEIN MEDICAL CENTER  
WILL SPEAK ON

**"THE SURVIVORS AFTER A  
NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST"**

- **POETRY** - FEATURED POETS OF PAPER SWORD  
AND OPEN READING
  - **MUSIC** - MATTHEW DODD
- REFRESHMENTS -



## THREE MILE ISLAND

# ALERT

NOVEMBER  
1987

315 Peffer Street; Harrisburg, PA 17102

TELEPHONE: 717-233-3072

**SUPPORT URGED FOR HOFMANN'S PUC NOMINATION** - Senate hearings continue on Gov. Robert Casey's nominee to the Public Utility Commission, Otto Hofmann of Harrisburg. Hofmann is the director of the Pennsylvania Utility Law Project that represents low-income clients on utility and energy issues. He is a consumer-oriented attorney with extensive experience in utility problems facing the elderly, small businesses, the poor, and the average ratepayer. There is some heavy lobbying against the nomination from groups that believe Hofmann's pro-consumer attitudes will lead him to oppose completion of the Limerick II nuclear power plant. They vow to fight the nomination unless Hofmann pledges to support Limerick II.

Readers are urged to call or write the following Senators before Thanksgiving and urge support for the Hofmann nomination: Shumaker\* (Dauphin) 652-1567; Moore (Perry) 582-4600; Hopper (Cumberland) 761-0923; Armstrong (Lancaster) 393-2765; and Hess (York) 225-5045. \*Thanks to Sen. Shumaker for support Mr. Hofmann. Write:

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
Senate of Pennsylvania  
Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120.

**HOUSE PASSES TAINTED PRICE-ANDERSON, SENATE CLEANUP URGED** - The U.S. Senate is in the midst of a hot dispute over passage of the Price-Anderson Act, legislation to provide citizens with a nuclear accident insurance policy. The House has already approved legislation that is inadequate, providing protection for the nuclear industry at the public's expense. The House version limits the nuclear utilities' liability to \$7 billion (even though the government estimates damages from a major accident could cost from \$15 to \$150 billion). Taxpayers would have to foot the rest of the bill. Also, the House allows Department of Energy contractors (nuclear weapons, research and waste) to remain exempt from liability for damages to the public.

What you can do: Write or call Senators Heinz and Specter and urge them to support legislation that will:

- o provide full victim compensation with no cap on industry liability;
- o protect taxpayers against assuming the costs of an accident; and
- o provide accountability for the nuclear industry and its contractors.

The Honorable H. John Heinz  
277 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: 202/224-6324

The Honorable Arlen Specter  
331 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: 202/224-4254

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YOUR DUES PAYMENT  
IS REQUESTED

**Three Mile Island Alert**  
315 Peffer Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17102



**OPEN  
IMMEDIATELY**

MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
November 17



**SVA SEEKS HEARINGS ON EVAPORATION** - On October 28, intervenor Frances Skolnick (representing both TMIA and SVA) filed a petition for hearing with the NRC concerning GPU's plans to evaporate 2.3 million gallons of radioactive waste water from the Unit 2 cleanup.

TMIA and SVA are requesting a public hearing on the evaporation proposal based on the following contentions:

1. The evaporation plan is not in keeping with the NRC's "ALARA" (as low as reasonably achievable) principle concerning radiation releases to the public.
2. The NRC did not conduct a risk/benefit analysis of the "no-action alternative" (i.e.: on-site, monitored, retrievable storage). The staff states only that any adverse impacts from evaporation (such as health risks) are outweighed by benefits.
3. Sufficient evidence has not been presented to demonstrate that the evaporation can be completed safely without releasing additional radioactive substances. There is no evidence that necessary oversight, monitoring, and safety systems will be in place.
4. That the NRC has not considered the cumulative effects of radiation exposure to the public.
5. The NRC has underestimated the effects of tritium and other radioactive elements in the water.
6. Due consideration was not given to methods that involve no environmental release of the water (i.e.: evaporation in a closed cycle or on-site monitored storage).

Ms. Skolnick will make a report on the evaporation issue at TMIA's membership meeting on November 17 in Harrisburg.

**SUPPORT FOR EVAPORATION HEARINGS BEING ORGANIZED** - Support for TMIA's and SVA's efforts in the proposed evaporation hearings is being organized in the following ways:

- o House meetings can be held utilizing the resources of TMIA (invitations, literature and speakers). Call Kay at the TMIA office (233-7897) if you would be willing to host or co-host a gathering in your home.
- o SVA has printed a new T-shirt -- "Please say no to evaporation" -- which is available at \$7.00 at the TMIA office. Medium and large sizes come in green, blue and tan.
- o Fundraisers include the sale of the 1988 Peace Calendars, "Carry It On," by the Syracuse Cultural Workers for \$8.95. Purchase your Christmas gifts from TMIA.

**THANK YOU** - to the volunteers who helped at the TMIA literature table October 23 and 24 during the East Mall Community Days: Debbie Baker, Deb Davenport, Charles Leising, Dan Welliver, Kay Pickering, Sandra Choma, Paul Lujanac, Bill Cologie, Vera Stuchinski, Luanne Baker, Laura Whitcomb and Tom Bailey.

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☐ \$5 Low income, Student ☐ \$200 Club Member  
☐ \$5 Non-member, newsletter subscription

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(Editor's note: Lauren Taylor toured France for 12 days in early October at the invitation of several French groups, while Joanne Doroshow attended anti-nuclear conferences in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Both will speak on their trips at the TMIA membership meeting November 17.)

### **Nuclear Generated Electricity - A Leading French Export**

by Lauren Taylor

A study in contrasts--travelling through France you can look to the left and see acres of vineyards growing grapes to be exported in the form of some of the world's finest wine. Look to the right and one of France's 44 "centrailes" - nuclear power plants - exporting 40 percent of the electricity produced. Tight-fisted government control, over-production, and unresolvable waste issues plague opponents of the French nuclear power system.

I met and talked with concerned citizens in about ten French towns in the region of Brittany, the proposed site of another unnecessary nuke. Although previously unperturbed by far-away stories of nuclear dangers and lulled by promises of inexpensive future power, most French people felt that Chernobyl came too close and many are reassessing their view of nuclear power. During and after the accident at Chernobyl, the French government kept everyone, including the media, totally uninformed of the situation. Sound familiar? They were later "reassured" that all radioactive materials stopped at the French-German border and there was no need for concern.

The growing lack of confidence in government and industry means and motives is unifying more French citizens in their desire to organize and work for change. The clearest point on the status of the movement in France was best put by a man who had his electric meter removed after Chernobyl and now generates what little electricity he uses with a wind mill. He said, "So often here in the 'no-nukes' movement the people are just intellectualizing about the horrific aspects of something that should now be past the intellectualizing side of things. It's a cover-up for action."

To be honest, although I agree with his view of the situation, I can't join him in his criticism. Here in central Pennsylvania, I live in the land of glass houses and can't afford to heave a single stone.

### **Japanese Consumers Union Proposes Exchange**

by Joanne Doroshow

Gensuikin is one of two major peace/anti-nuclear organizations in Japan. Each year Gensuikin holds conferences in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on the respective anniversaries of the atomic bombings of those cities. In addition, this year Gensuikin hosted the Asian-Pacific Radiation Victims Conference in Nagasaki--a precursor to the Global Radiation Victims Conference held in New York in September.

I was fortunate to have been invited to attend these conferences this year, along with many other foreign delegates representing 11 different countries. In Hiroshima, I presented a ten minute overview of the history of activity in the TMI area since the accident. In Nagasaki, I co-chaired the Radiation Victims conference and gave one speech covering the legal actions arising from the TMI accident. I was also one of two honorary foreign chairpersons for the opening and closing ceremonies, attended by several thousand people.

The Japanese people were extremely gracious, and the conference was well-organized. We were shown around each city and given some time to explore on our own, which we all did.

Later, while in Tokyo, I met with a number of consumer activists at the Consumers Union office. I have since received a proposal to establish an exchange program between the U.S. and Japan, whereby activists from one country would live one year in the other and get to know the people, the political system and activist techniques. Anyone interested in this program should let me know through the TMIA office.



**IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP MEETING SET FOR NOVEMBER 17** - On Tuesday, November 17, TMIA will host a pot-luck supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by the monthly membership meeting at the Harrisburg Friends Meetinghouse, 6th and Herr Streets, Harrisburg.

The program includes:

- \* Frances Skolnick - TMIA and SVA intervenor in the NRC/ASLB evaporation hearings
- \* Lauren Taylor - on her 12-day trip to northern France
- \* Joanne Doroshow - on the highlights of her trip to Japan and the proposal of the Japanese Consumer Union
- \* Planning Council Elections

Joanne and Lauren will bring an international view to share with TMIA members, as well as photos and stories. Frances will provide an up-date on the water-evaporation case.

Elections for Planning Council will be held. Call the office prior to the 17th with a nomination. Volunteer to help with the business of the TMIA organization.

**SEABROOK DEFAULT MAY HURT UTILITY BOND RATINGS** - The board of directors of Public Service Co. of New Hampshire decided recently to default on a \$37 million debt payment for the troubled Seabrook nuclear power plant. This is the first default of a major private utility since the depression. Seabrook was originally scheduled to go on line in 1979 at a price of \$1 billion, and Public Service's investment is just over \$2 billion. While Public Service's announcement was not a surprise, it is likely to further erode the investment climate for utilities.

Bond ratings for utilities have steadily decreased since the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) economic boondoggle in the late 1970s. BPA engaged in a massive nuclear power program, known as WPPS, that envisioned the construction and licensing of five nuclear power plants in Oregon and Washington. Only one plant came on line; the others were either mothballed or cancelled.

After the accident at TMI, bond ratings for utilities continued to plummet and nuclear power plant orders came to an abrupt standstill. However, in the last few years the utilities began to rebound. Public Service's decision to default, coupled with the NRC's decision to shutdown the troubled Peach Bottom plant, has once again dampened the investment climate for utilities.

-by Eric Epstein

**CALENDAR--CALENDAR--CALENDAR--CALENDAR--CALENDAR--CALENDAR--CALENDAR--CALENDAR**

**November 9** - 7:30 PM - TMIA Planning Council meets at the Harrisburg Friends Meeting House, 6th and Herr Streets.

**November 17** - 6:00 PM - Pot-luck supper followed by 7:15 PM TMIA Membership Meeting, Harrisburg Friends Meeting House.

**Mid-December** - Pre-hearing conference held by the NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board on the GPUN water-evaporation license amendment.

**Have a Happy Thanksgiving!**