

THREE MILE ISLAND

ALERT

APRIL
1987

315 Peffer Street; Harrisburg, PA 17102

TELEPHONE: 717-233-3072

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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Three Mile Island Alert
315 Peffer Street
Harrisburg, PA 17102

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IMMEDIATELY**



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.

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 Peffer St., Hbg. PA 17102

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 (Raffle, Picnic, etc.)	659.62
April Workshop	206.54
TOTAL INCOME	\$9581.45

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
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$9268.63

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.

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- 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 26th 1987 3:00 P.M.

 **#3rd admission** 

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