



*the newsletter of*  
**Three Mile Island Alert**  
March, 2006

**TMI Guards and Staff Sleeping on the Job** – The *Patriot-News* was provided a copy of a memo issued by John Young, the head of Wackenhut Security at TMI, directing that veteran guards stop coaching newbies on where they can hide to catch a quick nap. Young's October 17, 2005 memo to security supervisors on the island also stated that the newbies were being taught how to shortcut procedures at TMI. The memo came to light after the *Patriot* published a report that a security guard and a TMI shift manager were "inattentive," the industry's euphemism for sleeping on the job. The NRC has announced plans to investigate.

**TMI Guards Shorted on Their Paychecks** – Wackenhut guards at Three Mile Island got a bit rebellious by showing up for work on time. Doesn't sound rebellious to you? Well, the guards had been required to be at their posts at starting time. This required them to show up for work ten to fifteen minutes early to get armed and check through security, but they weren't paid for the time, even though their presence on-site was required. Dozens of the guards filed suit asking for thousands of dollars in overtime pay dating back to the beginning of 2002.

**Exelon Surrenders Bridges to Terrorists** – By removing the guards from their riverside stations and redeploying them on the island, TMI officials effectively surrendered control of the bridges to terrorists or anyone else interested in taking control of them. Exelon officials claim the guards can do just as good a job of protecting the island and central Pennsylvanians from positions on the island, but their claim lacks credulity. In a petition drafted in the weeks before September 11, 2001 and filed on September 12, 2001, TMI Alert sought increased security for the plant. The NRC has yet to rule on the petition, but it is said to be revising its rules for the nation's 63 operating nuclear power plants.

**TMIA Joins Petition Seeking Info on Leaks** – Three Mile Island Alert joined with a large coalition of organizations and individuals requesting the Nuclear Regulatory Commission issue Demands for Information to NRC licensed facilities to determine if there have been unreported radiation leaks. This petition was submitted in response to a troubling series of "surprises" about longstanding, undetected leaks of radioactively contaminated water into the ground around nuclear facilities licensed by the NRC. The most recent "surprise" was reported just last month at the Braidwood nuclear plant in Illinois and is said to involve the leak of several million gallons of contaminated water - some of which appears to have migrated off the site and into nearby drinking water wells.

**"Tooth Fairy" Seeks Teeth** – TMI Alert has worked for many years with the Radiation and Public Health Project's Baby Teeth Study which measures radioactivity in the teeth of those living near nuclear reactors. The study measures the level of Strontium-90, a cancer causing chemical released by nuclear reactors, found in teeth submitted by volunteers. If you have baby teeth from your children, please consider submitting them to the project along with a completed questionnaire designed to ascertain data as to the child's date of birth, place of residence, and other pertinent information. These forms are available at TMIA's Peffer Street office and in downtown Harrisburg at Transit News, the newsstand in the Harrisburg Transportation Center at 4<sup>th</sup> and Market Streets. For more information visit: [www.radiation.org](http://www.radiation.org).

**Memorial Service Set for Bev Hess** – Beverly Hess, one of the key members of the central Pennsylvania safe energy movement in the period just after the start of the TMI accident, died on January 25. Bev was one of the founding members of the Susquehanna Valley Alliance, a group



