

# THREE MILE ISLAND

# ALERT

JUNE  
1987

315 Peffer 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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IS REQUESTED

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

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IMMEDIATELY**



**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

**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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- 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).