

More often than not, these are the very same people who, rightfully, want to lift their less fortunate fellow humans from poverty; who want to build new cities, new schools, and new homes; who want to produce more food for the hungry; and who want to achieve other social and human goals for more people. Such accomplishments invariably will call for the use of much more energy than we have at hand today. The self-sacrifice of turning out some lights or unplugging some appliances is not the way to bring a better life to those growing millions who need and want the benefits brought through more energy.

In conclusion, let me go back to a little bit of light that was shed by a wise man who wrote long before this nuclear age, at another time when men struggled with their thoughts and actions about the future. Almost two centuries ago Edmund Burke wrote: "The public interest requires doing today those things that men of intelligence and good will would wish, five or ten years hence, had been done."

I believe that the judicious development of nuclear power as a major source of energy for the future is in the public interest and that five, ten, and a hundred years hence men will look back with favor on the course we are taking today.