

United States Senate

JUL 1 1969

Respectfully referred to:

CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

Roc'd Off. Dir. of Reg.

Date 8/7/69

Time 3:45

U.S.S.

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FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR JACOB K. JAVITS
NEW YORK

DR-2285



June 12, 1969

Senator Jacob C. Javits

Washington, D.C.

AEC

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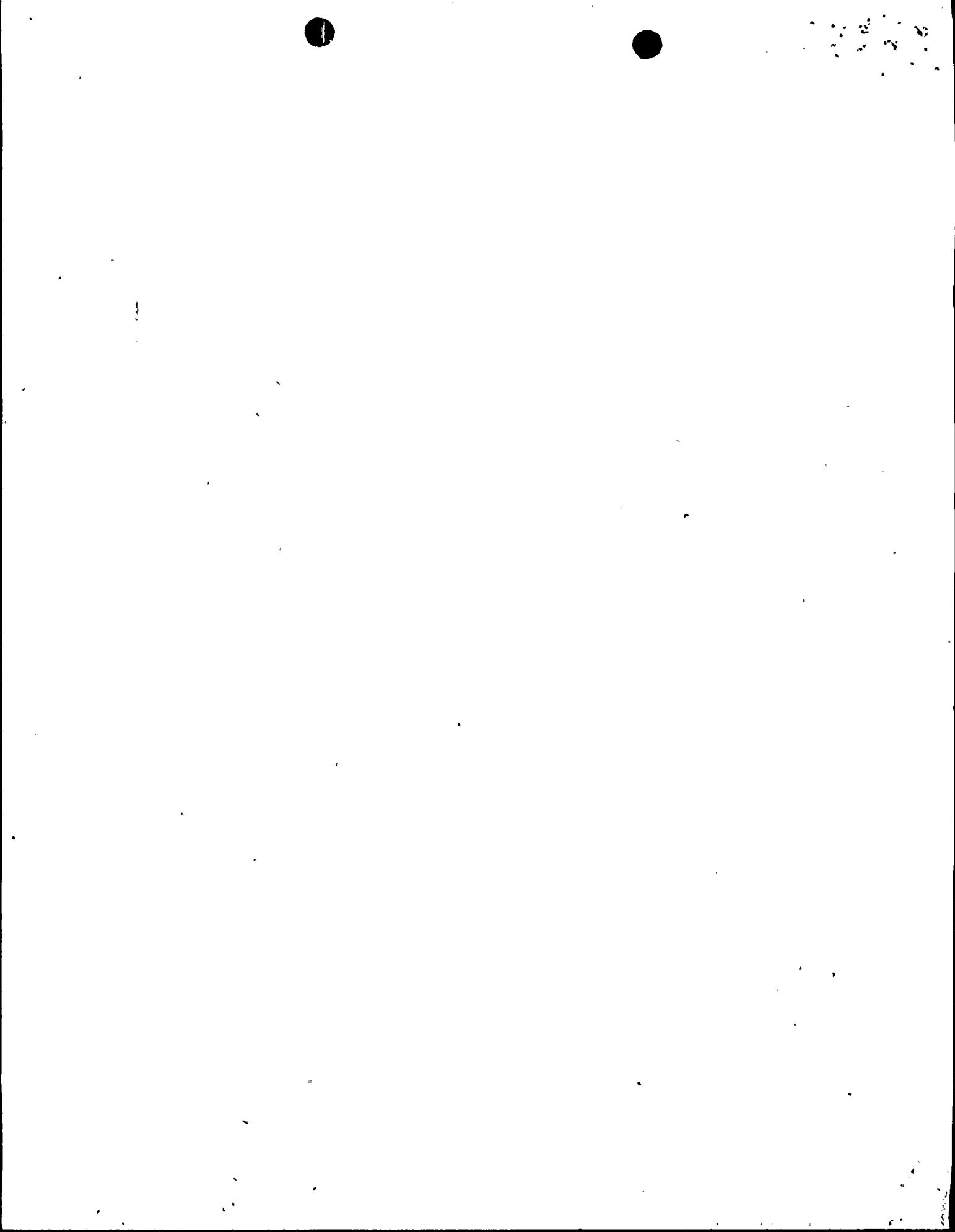
Dear Sir,

In July an inadequately designed atomic power plant will open on Lake Ontario unless you or someone powerful acts to get a court order or gets the Federal Pollution Administration to act. The plants will create thermal pollution in the area. ^{Also} The fish, plantlife, and birds in the areas of the atomic power plants have shown to have thousands times more radioactive material in them than that of the surrounding waters. Yet the Atomic Energy Commission high release levels of radioactive wastes is only designed to protect Humans. Environment and marine life are expendable.

It takes too long for radioactive materials to dissipate. Even the bodies of contaminated fish, plants, algae, and birds in the normal wave pattern deposits could make the entire East shore and even the St. Lawrence eventually unsafe for human use. Sterility of fish, birds, brittle bird eggs all are the result of permissive pollution levels from the Atomic Energy Commission. I do not see why they continue to let our environment be threatened so. Perhaps they are honest men, handling a difficult job. Maybe they don't get the results of the tests run on existing atomic power plants, tho that seems odd. At any rate can you stop this atomic power plant from opening without necessary protection for Lake Ontario?

It is located at Nine Mile Point near Oswego. Governor Rockefeller vetoed the bills that would have required thermal and radiation pollution protection. Why I do not know. All I do know is is that he is said to have had department recommendations from the State to veto it. It makes me angry to have Lake Ontario get polluted by some fault in the

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department paperwork or an error in writing the bills.

It does not seem right to me that the power companies can start these new plants without adequate cooling systems to prevent thermal pollution of this international boundary and without the radiation controls they could have. The cost is not prohibitive. They have no right to make money by destroying our Lake.

What will you do to stop this plant from opening until it will not pollute our marine life and create pea soup of the area. In fact what will you do to stop the other atomic power plants from polluting our ocean life? Are we such fools that we let business profit by destroying our environment? Can the Federal Pollution Control Admin. withhold N.Y. State funds until this new pollution threat is cleared up?

Please help us. The other atomic power plant reports are sufficient proof that the Nine Mile and State Power Authority Plants will pollute and badly.

Have you read in the magazine Natural History, May 1969, the article "The Myth of the Peaceful Atom"? In an effort to get a up to date reply from the Atomic Energy Commission, I sent the enclosed letter to the Atomic Energy Comm. Maybe they will send this years information and not 1964 reports that are pure propaganda. The public should be able to know of this rape of our waters and marine life.

You must act. How can your conscience let you do otherwise if you get the reports on the effects on our marine life. I pray you are powerful enough to defeat an eager business and eager financial interests in the State and nation.

The power companies should not be permitted to pollute our lake, and after it's terrible, get Fed'l funds to install the pollution controls they should have started with.

Respectfully,

Mr Rodney Little
Mrs, Rodney Little

402 Stone St. Oneida, N.Y.

10/31

June 11, 1969

Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission

Atomic Energy Commission

Washington , D.C.

Dear Sir,

On May 14, 1969 I sent a letter to your dept. asking some questions about atomic energy in the power industry. There has been no reply. I am especially concerned about the two atomic power plants near Oswego, N.Y. at Nine Mile Point on Lake Ontario. I fear inadequate cooling systems and inadequate radiation control will result in thermal and radioactive pollution of Lake Ontario, the State parks nearby, and the St. Lawrence.

I would appreciate having this letter answered. Please send copies of your reply to Congressman Samuel S. Stratton, Senator Edmund Muskie and myself. They will be expecting it, as I will mail their letters at the same time I mail this one.

1. Does the radioactive release levels differ for small, slow flushing lakes like Cayuga Lake in N.Y. vs. Lake Ontario in N.Y. vs. the ocean? If it is the same, why?
2. What were the results of the tests run on fish, plantlife, and birds at atomic power sites each year? Did they concentrate radioactive material at a higher % than that of the surrounding water? What were the results each year on these organisms? May I see the results of these tests?
3. Have signs of thermal pollution been present in any atomic power site? Has this been tested for each year? May I see the reports of this testing?
4. Were any marine life killed or driven off due to radiation or thermal pollution at power sites where they were prevalent before?



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5. What has been the effect of atomic power plants on the ecology of the areas? Has it been adverse?

6. Were fish, plantlife, or birds found to be harmed after several years of exposure to the permitted release rate of radioactive materials?

7. Do your release levels take into consideration prevention of damage to fish, plants and birds of the areas when they are set up? Will they damage our environment by destroying or making sterile our marine and air creatures?

I am also interested in the profit side of atomic energy. Please send answers of these questions also to Congressman Samuel Stratton, Senator Muskie, and myself.

1. What penalties would a power company receive if it exceeded your release levels? Are there extra penalties for frequent excesses?

2. Why don't you consider thermal pollution likelihood sufficient reason not to grant a permit?

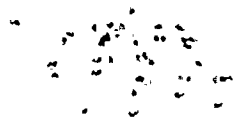
3. What financial benefits are available to a power company to go atomic?

4. Does a tax rebate or tax write-off exist for companies when a plant must be shut down due to its pollution rate or because it's uneconomical to change the design to stop excessive radiation leakage?

5. What atomic power companies have been shut down due to excessive pollution or inadequate design? Did the power companies receive compensation of any type in rebates, tax-write-offs or grants? If so how much to each company?

6. Why is your permitted discharge rate so high? It is technically possible to eliminate virtually all radiation now and the cost is not prohibitive.

Is your department suppose to keep atomic power a safe industry? Why haven't you insisted all radiation be eliminated that could be?



7. Can the power companies, Niagara Mohawk and the State Power Authority start up now with their current design and when pollution gets real bad, get federal funds to install the pollution control devices they should have been required to start with? Will they be eligible for tax rebates? Will the Federal Water Pollution Control finance the pollution control devices even if they were permitted to start up knowing the high chances of pollution likelihood? (the power companies)

8. How can we require proper prevention of pollution if your dept. does not insist upon the highest standards possible.?

9. Is there any law prohibiting any member of the Atomic Energy Commission from being hired by power companies as consultants? or in any other capacity? What are your names? Who if any, does work for power industries and which ones?

Copies of this letter will be sent to Congressman Stratton, and Senator Muskie. Your prompt reply to as many of the questions as possible would be appreciated.

Sincerely

Mrs. Rodney Little

402 Stone St.

Oneida, N.Y. 13421

Mrs. Rodney Little

