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Mr. Richard Hermans, Chairperson Safe Energy Coalition of New York State P. O. Box 2029 Albany, New York 12220

Dear Mr. Hermans:

This is in reply to your letter of January 22, 1979 to Chairman Hendrie regarding the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation's (NMPC) application to construct and operate a low-level waste reduction system at the Nine Mile I Nuclear Station in Oswego, New York. Since Chairman Hendrie may be called upon to participate in the review of decisions and rulings made in connection with the subject application, it would be inappropriate for him to comment on the matter. Accordingly, he has asked me to respond to you.

The question raised in your letter of NRC hearings regarding the NMPC proposed low-level radwaste reduction system is presently under consideration by the NRC technical staff. We anticipate making a decision as to whether a hearing is warranted within a very short time. You will be informed of that decision when it is made. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or desire further assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by Thomas F. Engelhard?

Thomas F. Engelhardt Deputy Executive Legal Director

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