

22 January 1979

Honorable Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Safe
Energy
Coalition
of
New
York
State

P.O. Box 2029, Albany, N.Y. 12220

Dear Chairman Hendrie,

I am writing in regard to the imminent construction of the first phase of a radwaste incinerator by the Niagara-Mohawk Power Corp at Nine Mile Point, N.Y.

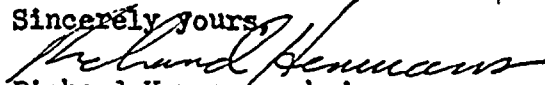
As you are probably aware, the proposed facility has never been tested with radioactive materials. Public concern over the possible escape of low-level radiation from the facility are being compounded by a lack of public hearings, an environmental impact statement, and a process for licensing such a facility that allows for the expression and consideration of adversary opinion.

We do not believe that a radwaste incinerator should be built now at Nine Mile Point. We believe that construction of the building in which the incinerator would be housed at this time is premature. The company expects to break ground in February, 1979.

In view of the recent action of the Commission which has called into question the evaluations of the Rasmussen Study, we believe the Commission should allow no project to progress, especially one as experimental in nature as the Niagara-Mohawk incinerator.

We call upon you, Chairman Hendrie, to halt the radwaste incinerator project at Nine Mile Point by withdrawing Niagara-Mohawk's permit to begin construction in February, until such time as public concerns are satisfied.

Sincerely yours,


Richard Hermans, chairpsn.

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