

OCT 12 1989

Docket Nos. 50-220  
50-410

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. Lawrence Burkhardt, III  
Executive Vice President  
Nuclear Operations  
301 Plainfield Road  
Syracuse, New York 13212

Gentlemen:

Subject: Allegation Regarding the Radiation Monitors at Nine Mile Point

This requests that Niagara Mohawk address an allegation raised at the August 23, 1989, NRC public meeting in Oswego, New York. The meeting solicited public comments on the NMP Unit 1 Restart Action Plan (RAP). During the meeting, Mr. Kevin Bond from New Haven, New York, stated that he had heard of instances in which the radiation monitors had been turned off during radioactive discharges and unusual events. Mr. Bond's statement is included in the attached copy of pages 113 to 119 of the transcription of the public meeting, which cover his comments.

We request that you review this allegation in detail, including additional specifics from Mr. Bond, if possible. Unless Mr. Bond is able to limit the allegation to either Nine Mile Point Unit 1 or Unit 2, please address the concern at both units. We request that this response be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Should you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Glenn Meyer of my staff at (215) 337-5183.

Sincerely,

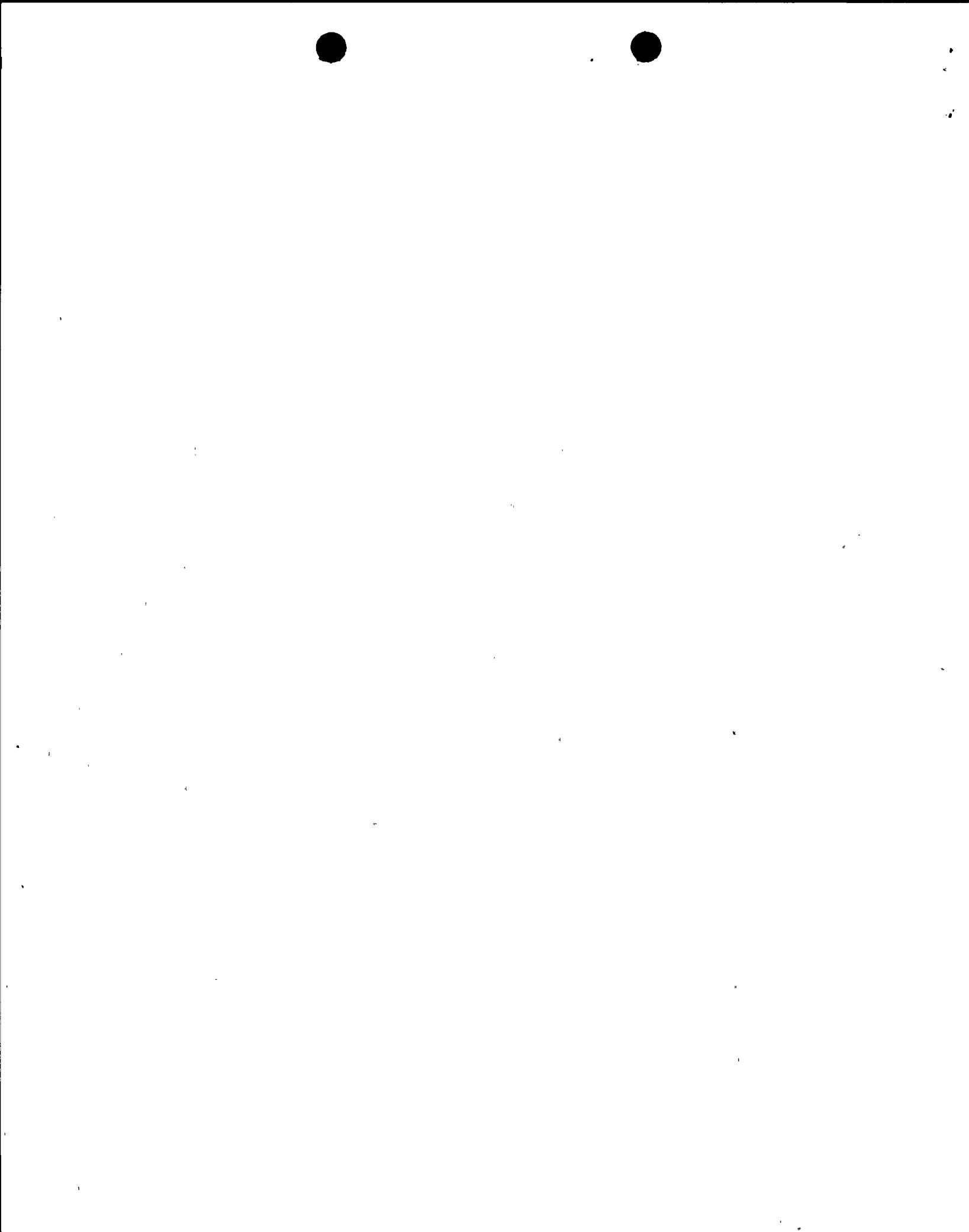
Original Signed By:  
James T. Wiggins  
James T. Wiggins, Chief  
Reactor Projects Branch No. 1  
Division of Reactor Projects

Attachment:  
As stated

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OCT 12 1989

## cc w/Attachment:

C. Mangan, Senior Vice President  
W. Hansen, Manager, Corporate Quality Assurance  
R. Smith, Unit 2 Superintendent, Operations  
C. Beckham, Manager, Nuclear Quality Assurance Operations  
R. Abbott, Unit 2 Station Superintendent  
J. Perry, Vice President, Quality Assurance  
K. Dahlberg, Unit 1 Station Superintendent  
R. Randall, Unit 1 Superintendent, Operations  
J. Willis, General Station Superintendent  
C. Terry, Vice President Nuclear Engineering and Licensing  
J. Warden, New York Consumer Protection Branch  
T. Conner, Jr., Esquire  
G. Wilson, Senior Attorney  
J. Keib, Esquire  
Director, Power Division, Department of Public Service, State of New York  
State of New York, Department of Law  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
NRC Resident Inspector  
State of New York

## bcc w/Attachment:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)  
J. Wiggins, DRP  
D. Limroth, DRP  
G. Meyer, DRP  
R. Barkley, DRP  
R. Capra, NRR  
M. Slosson, NRR  
J. Dyer, EDO

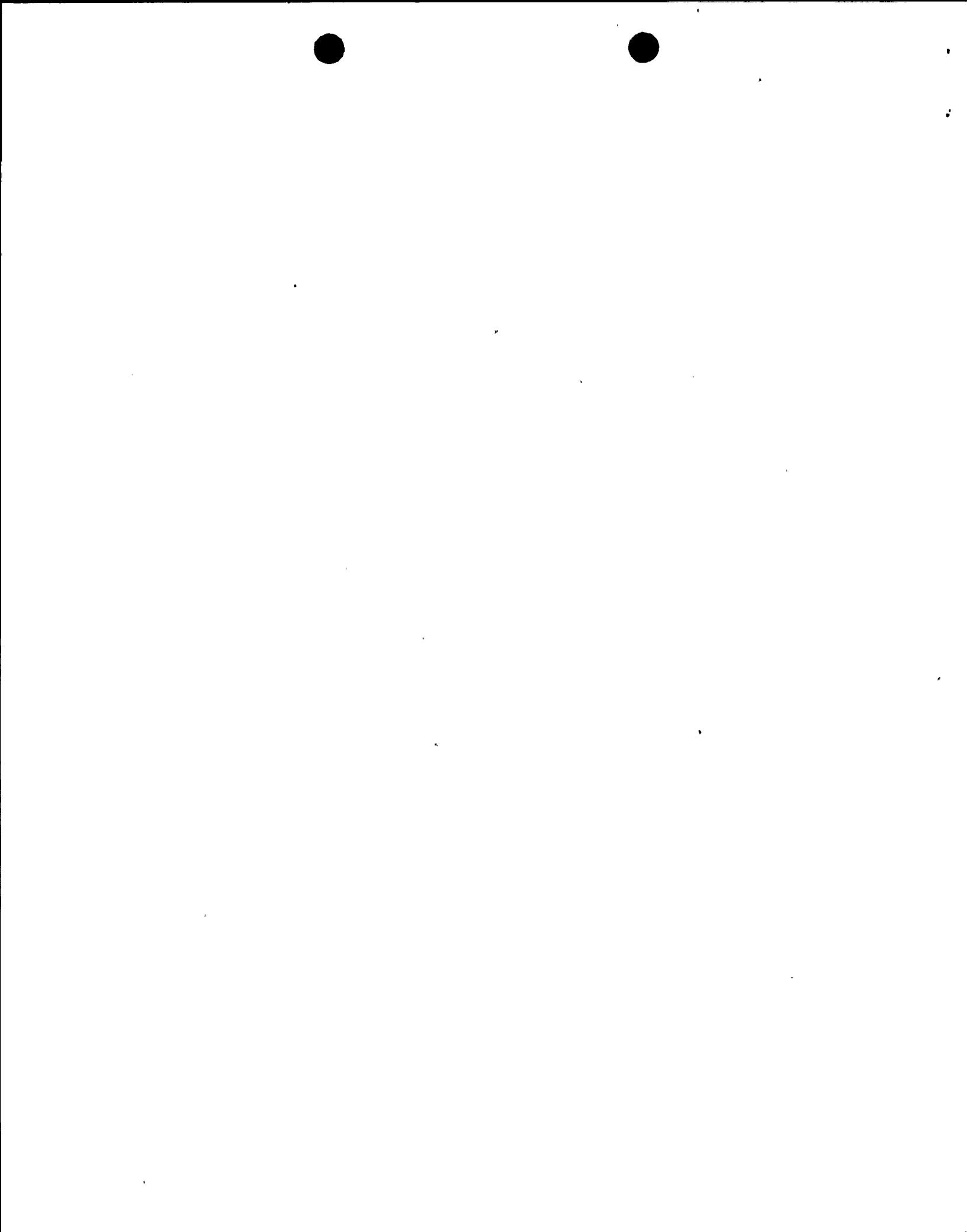
RI:DRP  
GMeyer/mjd

10/11/89

RI:DRP  
JWiggins

10/11/89

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**ATTACHMENT**

(NRC/Nine Mile)

113

Kevin Bond, please?

MR. BOND: My name is Kevin Bond, from New Haven. I live approximately five miles southeast of the plant.

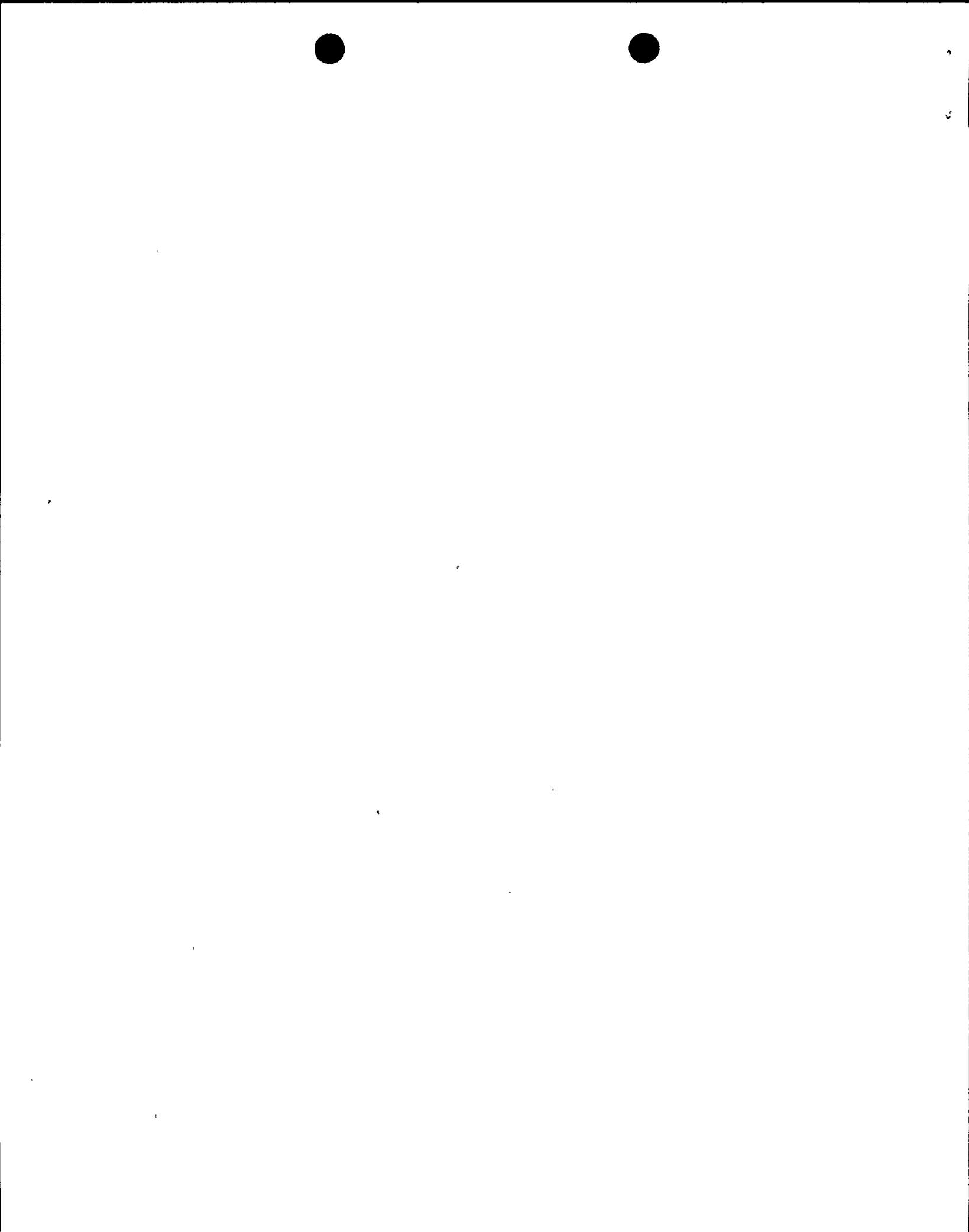
I'm a former CANDO member. I say former -- and I would like to emphasize that, because I was in on the founding of the group, me and my sister. I sat in on one of the first meetings held by the group. After a month, after they took my \$50, I was told that if I could not separate the nuclear power issue from the waste issue, that I did not belong in the group. So that was your CANDO group.

Now, for years I lived here -- I lived here all my life. Now, I was in the dark on this entire radiation issue up until this waste issue came up. Over the years, in local bars, I have heard a lot of stories. I have hung around with the people that built it, the people that worked there. They all hang around in the local bars.

And, over the years, we've heard stories of leaks; we've heard stories of these people going to work for weeks on end with nothing to do -- just going in and hanging out all day long.

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2 And there is also been allegations, which  
3 cannot be confirmed -- I wouldn't say allega-  
4 tions; maybe more rhetoric -- that Niagara Mohawk  
5 is being run by the mob here. I was hoping that  
6 wasn't so.

7 And there has also been a lot of reported  
8 cases of drug and alcohol abuses at the plants.

9 Is there any type of alcohol and drug abuse  
10 monitoring program now at Nine Mile 1,  
11 FitzPatrick, or Nine Mile 2?

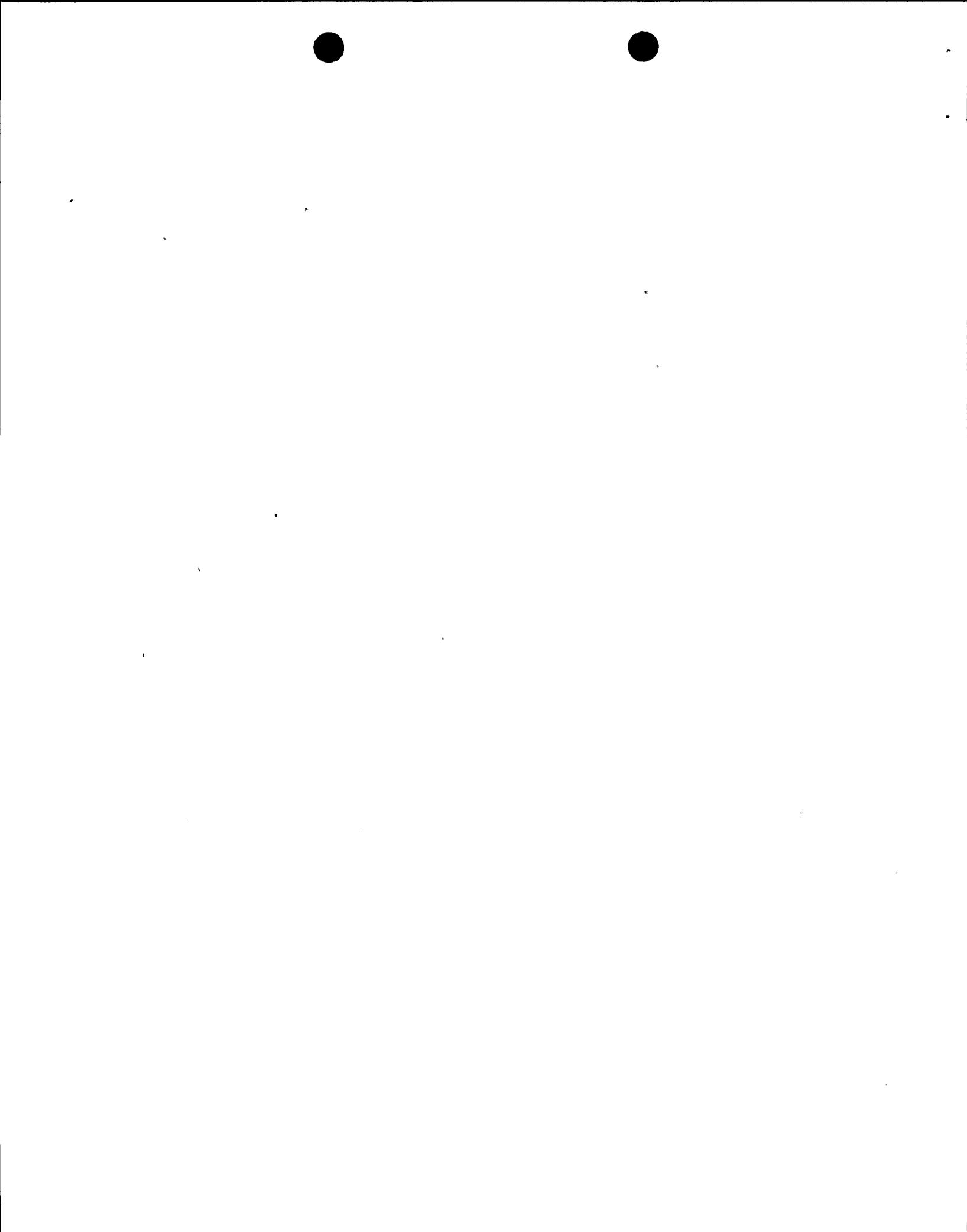
12 MR. COOK: Yes, sir, that's correct. There  
13 is a monitoring program in effect at Nine Mile  
14 Point 1 and 2. It is in the process of being  
15 changed to conform with the recent ruling by the  
16 NRC on a fitness-for-duty.

17 MR. BOND: Thank you.

18 There has also been -- During the years  
19 when the construction was going on, there was a  
20 lot of allegations of, quote: If you want a job,  
21 with a couple grand you can get a job. You could  
22 buy yourself a job there.

23 Of course, we know a lot of falsified  
24 reports by Niagara Mohawk.

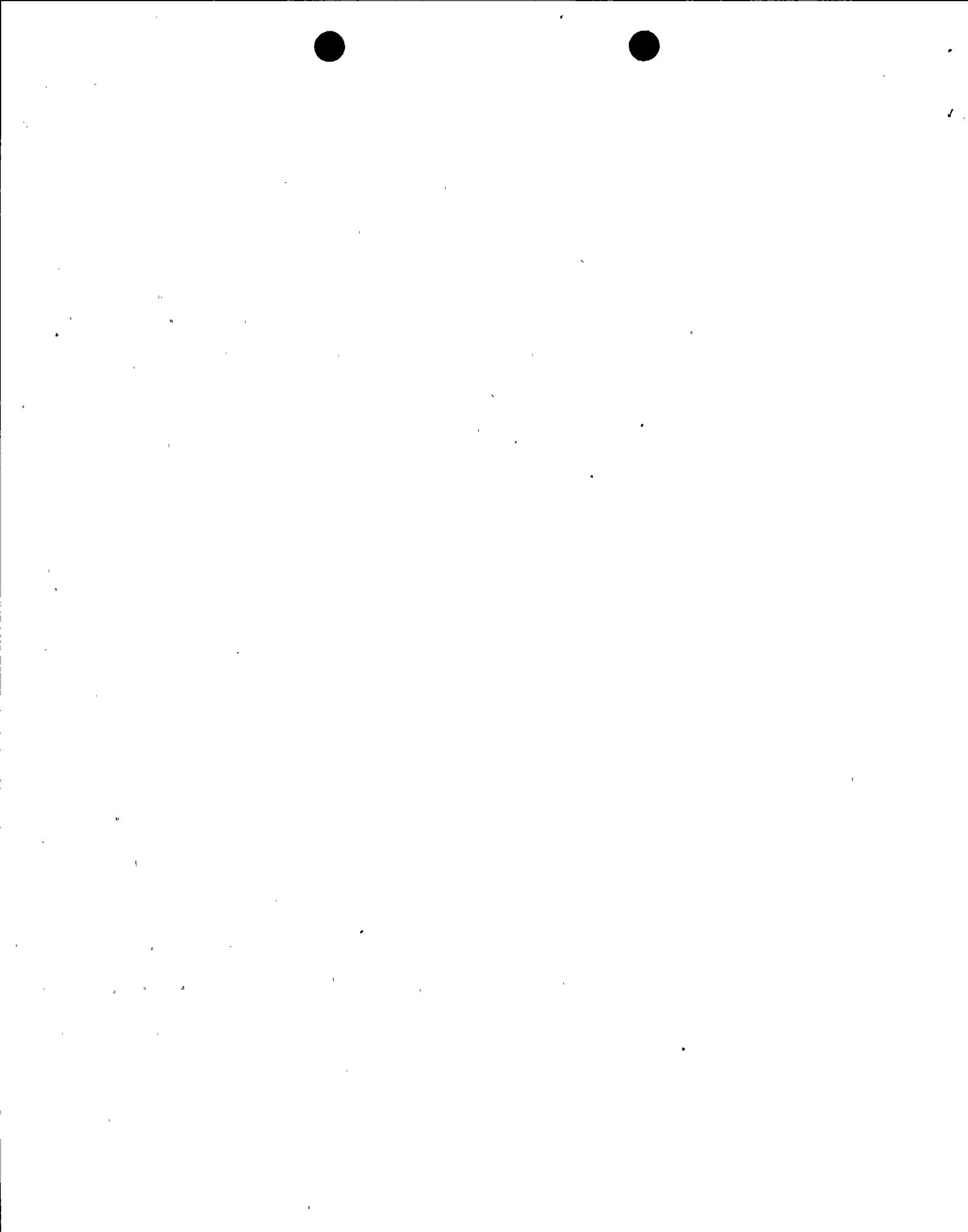
25 We have also heard of them, in the case of



2                             unusual events or just a discharge of radiation  
3                             in the environment, that they turn off their  
4                             monitoring devices. That's hard to believe. But  
5                             all this may or may not be true.

6                             But your restart plan at Niagara Mohawk, by  
7                             their own self-assessment, they clearly are try-  
8                             ing to address the inadequacy of the management.  
9                             95 percent of all of the corporations in this  
10                            country -- or myself, if I was the boss of this  
11                            place, I would fire every damned one of those  
12                            idiots. These people are being paid well to do a  
13                            job that they're supposed to know how to do. How  
14                            in the world can your people come to me and they  
15                            come to you and say: Hey, our people don't know  
16                            what they're doing; we need time to retrain. So,  
17                            instead of firing these people, they're hiring  
18                            just as many more people, experts, to train these  
19                            people for what they're already supposed to know  
20                            what to do. It doesn't make any sense. Poor  
21                            management.

22                             Niagara Mohawk also states that their main  
23                             concern is safety. For the safety of the  
24                             company, no doubt. I'm sure not the people  
25                             living around the plant.



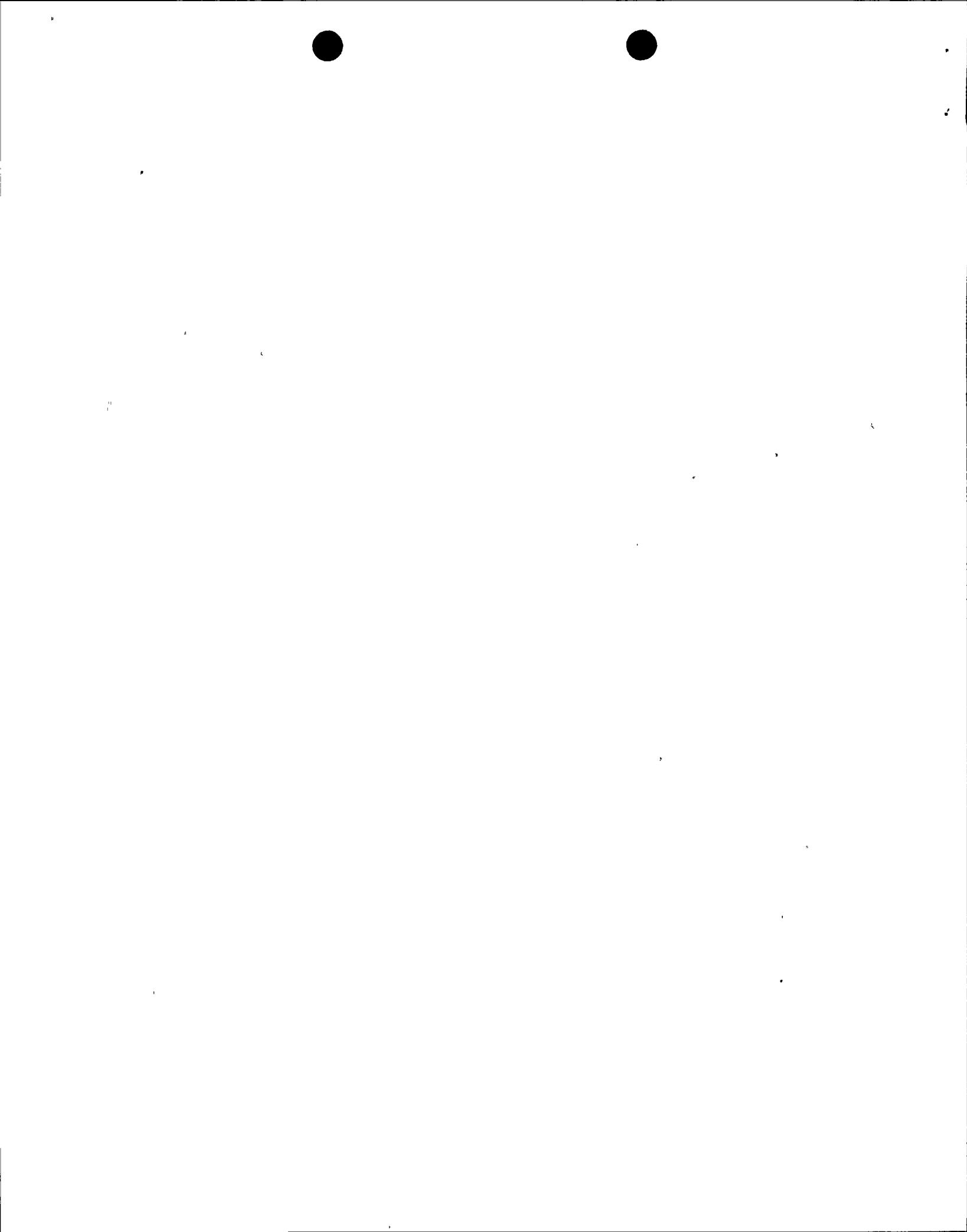
The emergency plan has you staying inside in event of a small-scale emergency. Small amounts of radiation being released, stay inside, keep your windows closed, and there will be something on T.V.

So if there is a major release, the plant blows sky high, 400 pounds of plutonium floating through the air, my sister has to walk a mile to a damn corner to wait for a bus that Joe Haney says he's not going to drive.

Who do you have responsible to make sure that this has an adequate emergency plan, that the people can get out? Can you guarantee me that if that plant goes to China syndrome, that every person in the Town of Scriba and Mexico and New Haven, that they will get out?

MR. WIGGINS: No. There are no guarantees. It's a planning basis. I'm telling you the truth. Emergency planning basis does not --. In the rules and regulations that govern off-site emergency planning, do not require absolute guarantees that everyone would be evacuated.

MR. BOND: So, in other words, the people in  
New Haven and --



2 MR. WIGGINS: The only standard that is used  
3 is reasonable assurance. Reasonable assurance  
4 that public health and safety will be protected.

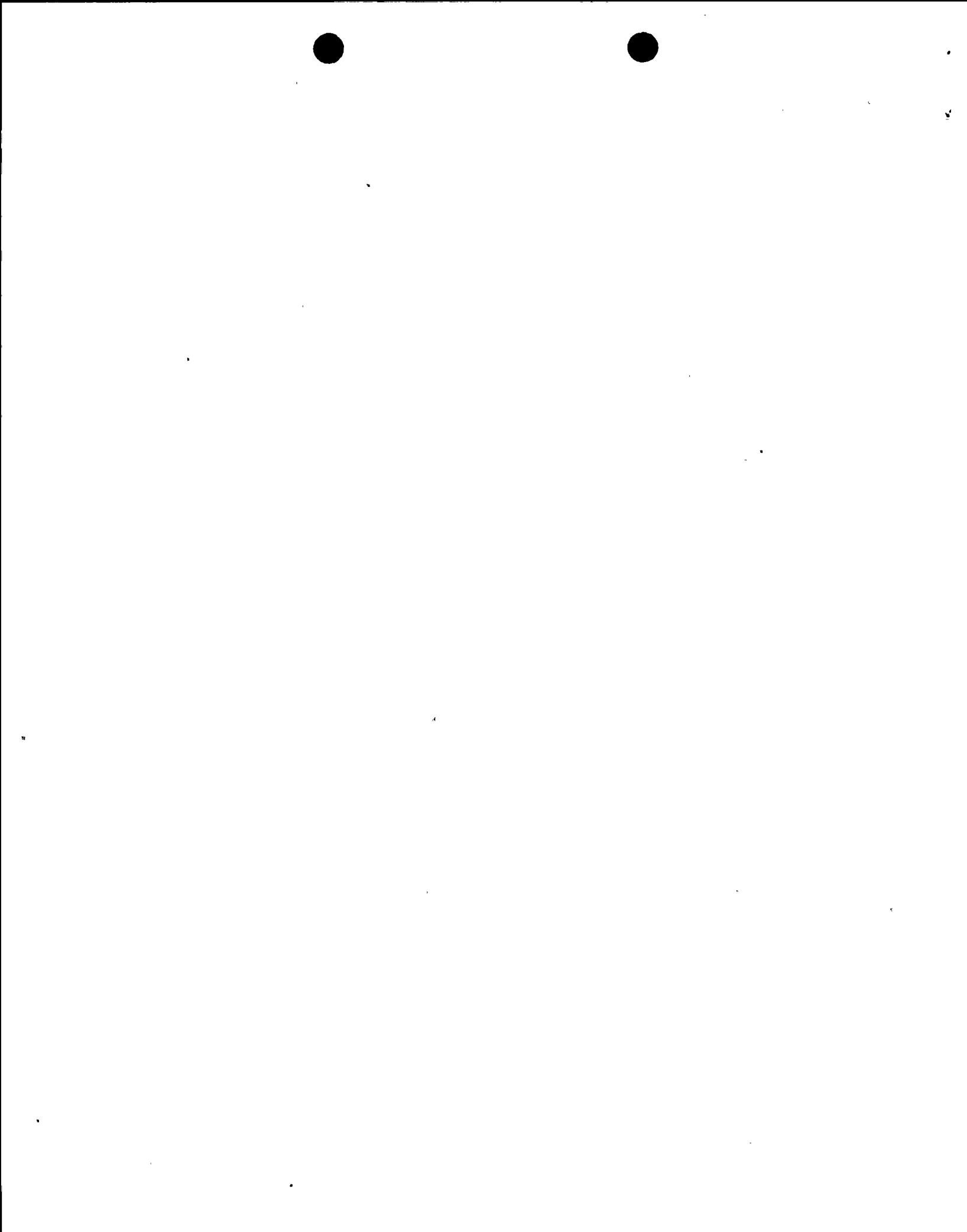
5 MR. BOND: So, like contamination of the  
6 building, which was let go for 11 years, that's  
7 reasonable safety?

8 MR. WIGGINS: It's not a guarantee of  
9 absolutes; it's reasonable assurance.

10 MR. BOND: Okay. Fine.

11 Niagara Mohawk has proven to me, once again,  
12 with this 11-year-old fiasco, that they are not  
13 concerned with my wellbeing. And they are not  
14 even concerned with the radiation levels in the  
15 community.

16 Now, recently, in the paper, the  
17 Soviet Union has come out and said, in north-  
18 western Siberia, about 25 miles from the Alaskan  
19 coast, the people that live there were exposed to  
20 weapons testing from the bombs in the '60s. Now  
21 they live in a background radiation of approxi-  
22 mately twice what they call normal; now they are  
23 experiencing a death rate at the age of about 45;  
24 and they're saying they have the highest  
25 esophagus cancer in the world. Two times the



normal background radiation.

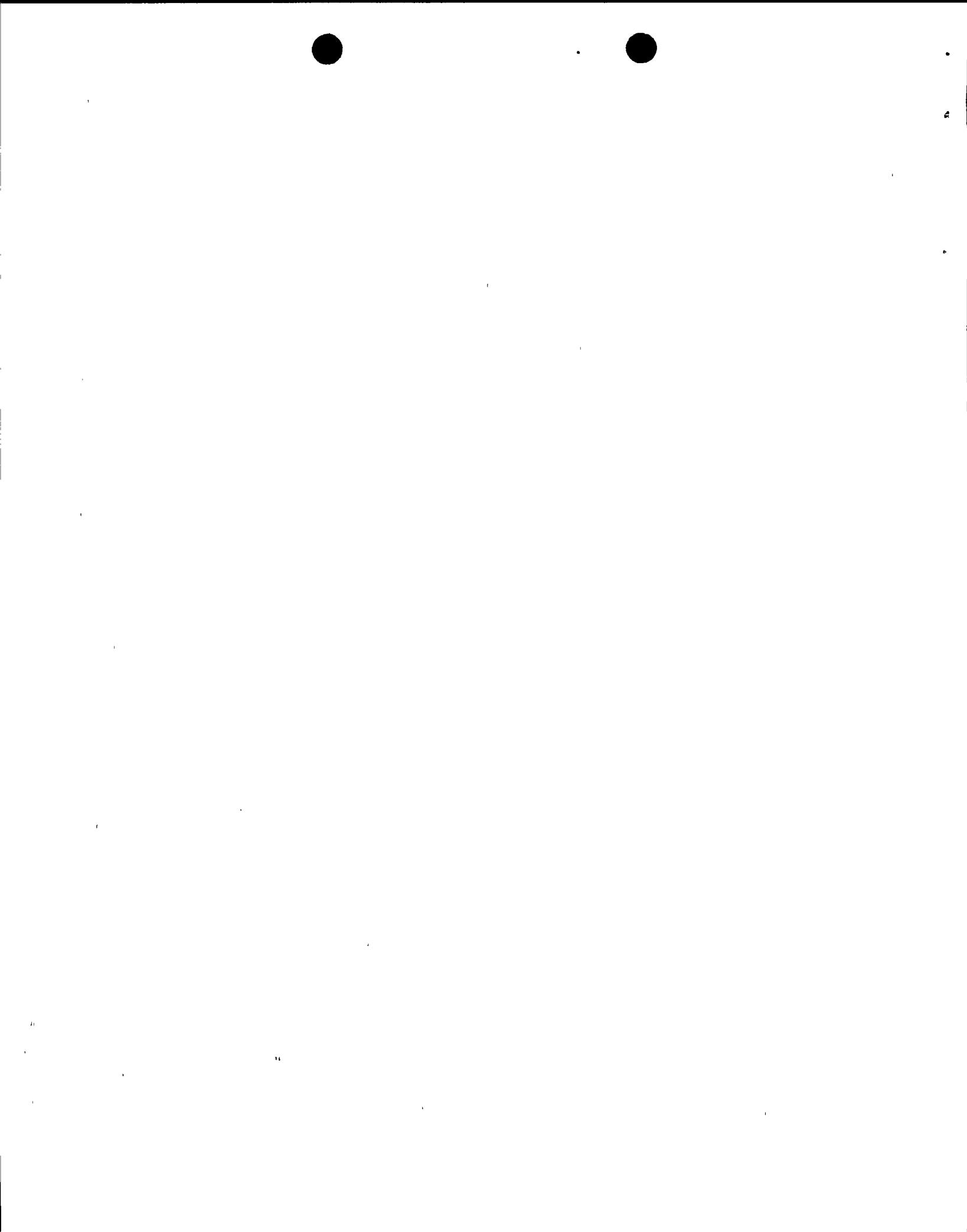
I, for my own protection and my family's,  
bought an ionizing radiation gauge that will tell  
you when ionizing radiation is around. At no  
special times do I check this. But I have  
noticed that the counts are higher at night and  
in the early morning hours than they are in the  
daytime; which doesn't make any sense, when the  
scientists warn you about the radiation from the  
sun, 93 million miles away. But they don't warn  
us about the atomic plant 5 miles away.

Now, my -- Of all the readings I've taken,  
I get an average of around 17 counts per minute;  
to put it in rems per year, it comes out to about  
.8, .9 rems per year.

17                   In the paper that Burtch guy from Niagara  
18                   Mohawk says that everybody in New York State  
19                   should be exposed to approximately .5 rem per  
20                   year. Now, how do you explain his total  
21                   ignorance of my family and where they live, liv-  
22                   ing in almost twice that background?

These people don't care.

24 You people are charged with the responsi-  
25 bility of licensing the reactors and making sure



1  
2           the people are safe. Now this is evidence that  
3           we are not safe.

4           I would like to thank you for coming here  
5           tonight. Thank you for this open meeting. And  
6           I'd like to emphasize that the direction this  
7           whole nuclear program is taking is one of -- it  
8           is about time we woke up and faced the facts,  
9           close the barn door, and try to get the horse  
10          back.

11          Thank you.

12          MR. WIGGINS: Just to briefly respond, and  
13          not to refute what you said, I don't mean to do  
14          that: You should be aware that the NRC has an  
15          independent method of monitoring environmental  
16          radiation around the reactor. We have thermal  
17          luminescent dosimeters.

18          VOICE: Can I ask you why the people in  
19          Pilgrim and Peach Bottom -- because we all feel  
20          united, we all live near disastrous Mark 1's, old  
21          G.E. plants. And why did the people in Maine,  
22          headed up by a state senator, ten years ago set  
23          up their own monitoring system, because yours are  
24          inadequate? Please don't tell me, for the  
25          record, that those are satisfactory. Because in

