

COMMITTEE ON RULES
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
30TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK
September 21, 1989

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Mr. Kenneth Carr
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Carr:

I am very concerned to learn that Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation for eight years has failed to clean up a spill of radioactive waste at its Nine Mile Point 1 nuclear plant near Oswego, New York.

Niagara Mohawk stored 150 barrels of radioactive sludge in the subbasement after a conveyer belt carrying them jammed. When the subbasement was flooded with radioactive water in 1981, the barrels leaked their highly toxic contents. Nothing was done in the intervening eight years to remedy this hazardous situation.

I am shocked that this dangerous mess was allowed to exist for so long. How could this happen? I would appreciate if you could explain to me the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's involvement with the Niagara Mohawk spill and the apparent lack of oversight and response. Should we be making changes in the federal and state NRC administration so that this lax regulation is not repeated?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Louise Slaughter
- Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress

LMS/sa
cc: Hon. Edward Markey

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