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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
November 9, 1990

The Honorable Kenneth M. Carr
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Carr:

At the House Interior Committee's Subcommittee on General Oversight and Investigations hearing on March 14, 1990, you stated that while you have access to the documents and numerous evaluations prepared by the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO), you personally had not reviewed any such document pertaining to the Seabrook nuclear power plant prior to issuing the full power license for the reactor. You also stated that you "have some 110 plants out there and INPO makes inspections on all of them ... there is no way in the world the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has enough people to read every inspection report on every plant."

It has recently come to my attention that the NRC may have altered its instructions to on site inspectors since the hearing, so that it is now mandatory for all such inspectors to review the relevant safety evaluations prepared by INPO. I would appreciate your providing me with relevant documentation showing what the policy was before the change, what the new policy is, and any explanation or reasoning behind the change in policy.

If there are any questions, please contact Diana Lazarus of my staff at 225-2836.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey
Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress

EJM/drl

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PDR COMMS NRCC
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