

CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

8TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1024 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6341

DISTRICT OFFICE  
11141 GEORGIA AVENUE  
SUITE 302  
WHEATON, MD 20902  
(301) 948-6801

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

November 26, 1990

The Honorable Kenneth M. Carr  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20555

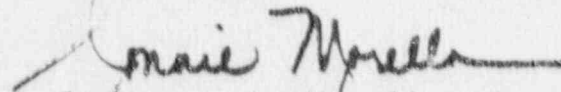
Dear Mr. Carr:

I am forwarding a letter from Mr. Linden Martineau of Chevy Chase, Maryland regarding the policy statement on "Below Regulatory Concern".

I realize that the policy statement was effective July 3, 1990. However, I would appreciate your careful consideration of Mr. Martineau's comments.

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

Sincerely,

  
Constance A. Morella  
Member of Congress

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Dear Representative Morella:

I strongly urge you to protest the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) June 27 decision to "deregulate" nearly 30% of the radioactive waste produced by nuclear power plants by declaring it to be "Below Regulatory Concern" (BRC). Under the plan, dirt, clothing, tools, sludge, machinery & pipes containing "low-level radiation" could all be disposed of like ordinary trash & shipped to municipal dumps. This paves the way for the commercial reuse of this radioactive waste ("radwaste"): recycled into consumer products & the use of contaminated land & buildings at nuclear power plant sites for unrestricted public use.

The UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation reported in 1988 that radiation risks were 3 times higher than first believed in 1977, & the International Commission of Radiological Protection is now preparing new, more stringent exposure regulations. Despite a startling 1989 report by the National Academy of Sciences (the B.F.I.R.-V Report) that found the risks of low-level radiation were from 4-14 times greater than previously believed, the NRC seems determined to ram through these new guidelines that will actually increase permitted exposures to nuclear workers & the public.

I remain, an environmentalist concerned about the nutcracks of America,



Linda P. Martinez  
7011 Connecticut Ave.  
Chazy Chase, MD 20915