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Congress of the United States
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COMMITTEE ON
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TRADE
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

November 26, 1979



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

Dear Joe:

I must, unfortunately, complain to you about the unresponsiveness of your staff.

On July 9, 1979, I requested an on-site study of the Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant in Suffolk County. On July 13th, I received the standard acknowledgement promising "prompt attention". On September 26th, I received a totally unresponsive and wholly inadequate letter that did nothing more than explain the existing licensing regulations for nuclear power plants. On October 15, 1979, I again wrote to request an on-site study and, on October 26th, I received again the "prompt attention" acknowledgement. I have enclosed copies of this correspondence for your information.

I am greatly disturbed at the cavalier manner with which my request was treated. It certainly should have been possible to respond in a substantive manner or, at the very least, to explain why such a response could not be formulated.

In light of recent events there is renewed interest in my district in the overall question of nuclear power and the safety of the Shoreham plant in particular. I would, therefore greatly appreciate your personally reviewing my original request that is now over four months old.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. DOWNEY
Member of Congress

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