BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Morris King Udall served as a Congressman from Arizona for thirty years. From 1977 to 1991, he chaired the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs where he was instrumental in launching the investigations into the March 1979 accident at Three Mile Island. Through this Committee and the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, Udall questioned officials of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission about the manner in which the nuclear power plant was handled before and after the accident; these investigations prompted many reforms. In 1981, he sponsored a bill which authorized amendments relating to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and helped to pass the Nuclear Waste Management Policy Act in 1982.


COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Morris K. Udall Collection was donated to Dickinson College in 1982 by Henry Myers, a staff member in Congressman Udall’s office. Additional materials were added to the collection through the late 1980s. The collection consists mostly of correspondence and reports collected by Congressman Udall while he was chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. The collection is divided into five series, which are arranged in alphabetical order: General Public Utilities Corporation, Metropolitan Edison Company, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment, and Three Mile Island, Unit Two. Each series contains materials relating to each organization involved in the incident at Three Mile Island in March 1979. More detailed series descriptions appear before each series inventory.
Collection Inventory

Series 1 - General Public Utilities Corporation

General Public Utilities Corporation is a utility holding company formed under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935. Three of its subsidiary electric companies owned the Three Mile Island facilities. The largest shareholder, Metropolitan Edison Company, was held directly responsible for the accident at the nuclear power plant. Somewhere between 1979 and 1982, GPU Nuclear Corporation was created and became the licensed plant operator of TMI. The entire GPU conglomerate, however, was also held accountable for the accident on March 28, 1979. In October 1979 the corporation began “The Unit Two Clean-up,” and in December 1993 placed the unit under monitored storage with plans to jointly decommission both Units One and Two when Unit One reaches the expected end of its service life in 2014. On December 21, 2000, the TMI-1 plant was purchased by AmerGen Energy Company becoming its operator. Given that the TMI-2 unit was shut down in 1993, the companies agreed that it would remain under ownership of GPU.

The GPU papers are divided into three sub-series: Correspondence, Data Reports, and Legal Papers. Each sub-series is organized chronologically. The Correspondence sub-series consists of internal memoranda regarding the accident and the aftermath dating from 1978-1984. The Data Reports sub-series deals with various reports on the investigation of the accident at the TMI-2 facility. Finally, the Legal Papers sub-series contains copies of depositions taken for the trial between GPU and Babcock & Wilcox, the firm of the reactor designers and builders.

Series Inventory

Box 1 - TMI-Udall

Correspondence
- Folder 01) Internal Memoranda - 1978-1979
- Folder 02) Internal Memoranda - 1980-1984

Data Reports
- Folder 03) Accident Review Task Force, Interim Summary Reports - 1979
- Folder 04) Accident Review Task Force, Final Summary Reports - 1980
- Folder 05) Technical Data Reports - 1978
- Folder 06) Technical Data Reports - 1979-1981
- Folder 07) Electromatic Relief Valve Actuation Information - 1979

Legal Papers
- Folder 08) Deposition of James L. Seelinger - Sep. 30, 1981
SERIES 2 - METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY

The Metropolitan Edison Company, a subsidiary of GPU Corporation, was the parent company responsible for the Three Mile Island facilities. The company was brought under investigation for the actions taken prior to the accident and eleven charges of falsifying leak rate data submitted to the NRC were brought against the company. MetEd and GPU pleaded guilty to one count and no contest to six and the remaining four counts were dropped. Metropolitan Edison Company eventually became a subsidiary of GPU Energy in 1996. This series contains only one sub-series, Correspondence, which consists of the inter-office memoranda circulating between 1976 and 1980. The Correspondence sub-series is arranged chronologically.

SERIES INVENTORY

BOX 2 - TMI-Udall (cont.)

CORRESPONDENCE
Folder 09) Inter-office Memoranda - 1976-1980
The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is an official United States government agency charged with promoting and controlling the nuclear energy plants within the U.S. The NRC papers are divided into three sub-series: Correspondence, News Articles, and Reports. The Correspondence is further divided into letters sent, letters received, letters written by outside parties concerning the actions of the NRC, and memoranda. Within each division the letters are housed in chronological order. The News Articles sub-series contains one news article from the publication, Inside NRC, dealing with the GPU-B&W trial. The Reports sub-series contains two volumes of NRC reports for July 1979.

SERIES INVENTORY

BOX 2 - TMI-Udall (cont.)

CORRESPONDENCE
 Folder 11) Letters received - 1982-1984
 Folder 13) Memorandum, Special Inquiry Group - Mar. 4, 1980

NEWS ARTICLES
 Folder 14) “Stello is Right: Commissioners Don’t Like His Report on GPU - B&W Trial,” Inside NRC - Apr. 18, 1983

REPORTS
 Folder 15) NUREG 0600 Vol. I - Jul. 16, 1979
 Folder 17) NUREG 0600 Vol. II - Jul. 16, 1979
 Folder 18) NUREG 0600 Vol. II - Jul. 16, 1979

SERIES 4 - SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

The Subcommittee on Energy and Environment was part of the House of Representatives’ Committee on Insular and Interior Affairs. Both of these committees were actively involved in the investigations into the accident at TMI-2. There is only one sub-series, General Papers, which contains information of and testimony from hearings conducted by the committee, as well as a letter written to the NRC.

SERIES INVENTORY

BOX 2 - TMI-Udall (cont.)

GENERAL PAPERS
 Folder 19) Oversight hearing on NRC authorization - 1984-1985
 Testimony of Joanne Doroshaw and Louise Bradford - Mar. 29, 1982
 Letter to NRC - May 10, 1983
The Three Mile Island, Unit Two nuclear power plant is located near Middletown, Pennsylvania. This facility is the site of the most serious accident in U.S. nuclear power plant operating history. The accident took place on March 28, 1979 at four o’clock in the morning. The sequence of events – equipment malfunction, design-related problems, and worker errors – led to significant damage to the TMI-2 reactor core. The incident brought about sweeping changes involving emergency response planning, reactor operator training, human factors engineering, radiation protection, and other areas of operations. It also prompted the NRC to heighten it regulatory oversight.

Copies of a portion of the investigative research and reports that came from the TMI-2 facility make up the papers in this series. The TMI-2 series is divided into two sub-series: Investigative Task Force Papers and General Papers. The Investigative Task Force sub-series contains interviews and reports dealing with the courses of action taken the night of the accident. The General Papers sub-series consists of a number of analytical reports researched and written for the investigation into the accident.

SERIES INVENTORY

BOX 2 - TMI-Udall (cont.)

INVESTIGATIVE TASK FORCE PAPERS
Folder 20) Draft of interview with operating crew on duty during accident
Folder 21) Rationale for Operator/Staff Response
Folder 22) “Loss of Feedwater Flow Leading to the Accident of March 28, 1979”

GENERAL PAPERS
Folder 23) “Lessons Learned from TMI in Reactor Instrumentation and Diagnostics”
Folder 24) TMI-2 Interim Operational Sequence of Events as of May 8, 1979
Folder 25) HFT Event - Sep. 1977
Folder 26) Rx Trip/ES Incident - Apr. 23, 1978
Folder 27) Analysis of Rapid Cooldown Transient - Aug. 29, 1978
Folder 28) Analysis of Reactor Coolant System Make-up during the TMI-2 Event - Dec. 29, 1982
Folder 29) Interview of a control room crew not involved in the accident - Jan. 21, 1982

This collection register was prepared by Regan Winn, September 2001.