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**NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION**

March 22, 1999

Honorable Debra Renner  
Acting Secretary  
State of New York  
Department of Public Service  
Three Empire Plaza  
Albany, New York 12223

Dear Acting Secretary Renner:

The enclosed postponement supplement, issued by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, is transmitted for filing in compliance with the requirements of the Public Service Commission.

**Supplement No. 16**

To: P.S.C. No. 218 Gas

Effective: May 1, 1999

The enclosed supplement requests postponement of First Revised Leaf No. 151 filed by Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation on January 22, 1998, effective May 1, 1998 and subsequently postponed to April 1, 1999. This Postponement Supplement No. 16 has been filed in order to allow the Company to consider an alternate pricing mechanism or in the alternative to consider the withdrawal of the filing. Therefore, the Company requests further postponement of the January 22, 1998, filing to May 1, 1999.

The Company requests special permission for the postponement supplement to become effective on less than statutory notice effective April 1, 1999, to be coincident with the otherwise effective date of the pending leaf. The Company also requests waiver of advertising required under the provisions of 16NYCRR 270.70 in that the P.S.C. No. 218 tariff has previously been advertised and that the proposed delay will have no impact on the general body of ratepayers.

Sincerely,

Marcia G. Collier  
Manager of Gas Rates