

October 24, 2001

Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner
State of New York
Department of Environmental Conservation
Albany, New York 12233-1010

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO CONCERNS ON DECOMMISSIONING OF THE WEST
VALLEY FACILITY

Dear Commissioner Crotty:

I am responding to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) letters of April 10, 2001, and May 14, 2001 concerning the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP). Issues raised in those letters bear on matters currently being considered by the Commission in establishing a final policy statement on decommissioning criteria under the WVDP Act. Accordingly, we believe that the issues raised in NYSDEC's letters can be more fully addressed after the Commission completes action on the final policy statement. We would welcome interaction with NYSDEC on the issues it has raised following Commission action on the Congressionally mandated establishment of decommissioning criteria for the WVDP.

If you have any questions, please contact John Greeves, Director, Division of Waste Management, of my staff, at (301) 415-7437.

Sincerely,

/RA/ M. Federline for

Martin J. Virgilio, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: Alice Williams, DOE WVDP
Paul Piciulo, NYSERDA
Paul Merges, NYSDEC

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DATE	10 /17/01		10/17/01		10/18/01		10/ 22/01		10 /22/01		10/24/01	