

DEC 1 1959

Mr. Wallace de Laguna  
Geologist, Health Physics Division  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
Post Office Box X  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Dear Mr. de Laguna:

Your remarks of November 23, 1959 regarding the relative merits of the statements concerning geology and hydrology which were contained in the Notice of Proposed Rule Making entitled "Factors Considered in Site Evaluation for Power and Test Reactors" will be given consideration in our review of comments received on this subject.

At the present time the AEC has no plans for a general discussion on this subject. However, if one should be held, it is believed likely that advance publicity would provide interested persons ample opportunity to attend.

Sincerely yours,

Original Signed by R. L. Kirk

Richard L. Kirk, Deputy Director  
Division of Licensing and  
Regulation

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*Comments*  
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# OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

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POST OFFICE BOX X  
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

November 23, 1959

Mr. Richard L. Kirk  
Division of Licensing and Regulation  
Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kirk:

The thought that the AEC may be attempting to set "definitive criteria for site selection" which will include a statement that "deposits of relatively impermeable soils over ground water courses are desirable" disturbs me profoundly. It is a fine thing, of course, to protect our ground-water resources, but by and large our surface-water resources appear to be more critical and more vulnerable. The same impermeable soils that protect the ground water lead to rapid and direct surface movement of contamination. After seven years at Brookhaven and five here in Oak Ridge I feel that the permeable sand of Long Island is in many ways superior to the Tennessee clay as a reactor site. I hope it is not too late to include this comment in your review.

If at any time there is to be a general discussion of this question I hope you will give me a chance to sit in on it. I am supposed to be helping find the next reactor site at Oak Ridge, and have been teaching a course at ORSORT in geology as related to site selection, so I have a genuine interest.

Very truly yours,

*Wallace de Laguna*

Wallace de Laguna  
Geologist  
Health Physics Division

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Comments*