

December 29, 2003

Administrative Judge
Alan S. Rosenthal, Presiding Officer
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop - T-3 F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

In the Matter of
U.S. ARMY
(Jefferson Proving Ground Site)
Docket No. 40-8838-MLA-2; ASLBP No. 04-819-04-MLA

Dear Presiding Officer:

In accordance with the option afforded the NRC Staff ("Staff") under 10 C.F.R. § 2.1213, the Staff intends to participate as a party to the proceeding on the proposed possession-only license for the Army's Jefferson Proving Ground facility. Accordingly, the Staff is also filing today, in accordance with 10 C.F.R. § 2.1205(g), an answer to Save the Valley's "Request for Hearing ... re Request for Alternative Decommissioning Plan Schedule," dated November 26, 2003.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Stephen H. Lewis
Counsel for NRC Staff

cc: Richard Hill
Richard C. Wakeling, Esq.
Michael A. Mullett, Esq.
Jerome E. Polk, Esq.

Samuel J. Walker, Esq.
Office of the Secretary
ASLBP-Adjudicatory File
ASLBP