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June 4, 1979

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MINORITY COUNSEL

Honorable Joseph Hendrie  
Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Chairman Hendrie:

The Committee appreciated the testimony of William Dircks on May 31, 1979. As a follow-up to that hearing, I would like to have the Commission's response to the following questions:

1. Does the Commission now have authority to compel the State of New York, Nuclear Fuels Services, Inc. or another non-Federal body to provide for removal and disposal of high level nuclear wastes at the West Valley site, and for the decontamination and decommissioning of other materials and facilities at the site? If so, does the Commission intend to exercise this authority? Whence does the authority derive? If not, why not?
2. Does the Commission believe that its current authority for licensing of high level waste management activities at the West Valley site is adequate?

Due to the press of legislative business, I would appreciate the Commission's response to these questions by June 18, 1979. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

*Morris K. Udall*  
MORRIS K. UDALL  
Chairman

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