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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

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Centers for Disease Control Atlant, Georgia 30333

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Mr. Robert O. Burns, Jr. R.D. 6, Box 104 York, Pennsylvania 17404

Dear Mr. Burns:

This is in response to your letter to Secretary Schweiker requesting Federal aid to expedite clearmup of the Susquehanna River following the Three Mile Island accident.

We share your concern about the potential wisk to the Susquehanna River. However, it is our understanding that the presence delay in cleanup operations is not due primarily to lack of funding but, rather, to the need by the Muclear Regulatory Commission, the Department of Energy, and the Emvironmental Protection Agency to develop the safest methodology possible for such removal so that surrounding bodies of water will not be contaminated by the removal process.

You may wish to write to the Office of Nuclear kenctor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, directly regarding the progress they are making in developing appropriate methodology. We are taking the liberty of forwarding your letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Thank you for your interest and concern in this important problem.

Sincerely yours,

Fillin H. Foege, M.D. Assistant Surgeon General MOIZZIMMOD VIGIA HO D DAHDUM 2.0 Director

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cc: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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