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April 11, 1990

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The Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Attention: Docketing and Services Branch

Gentlemen/Ladies:

Regarding the permanent burial of thorium in West Chicago, Illinois, I wish to express my support of the State of Illinois' request to assume regulatory control of the thorium.

I firmly believe the State of Illinois should have ultimate control in this matter for the following reasons:

1. The proposed burial site is in the middle of schools and a populated area.
2. A firm in Utah is willing to accept shipment of the radioactive material.
3. Radioactive waste of this proportion has never in the history of the United States been permanently buried in a densely populated area.
4. The long-term effects of permanent burial (possible leakage, health risk to individuals, etc.) cannot be accurately determined at this time. Only time can reflect the damage.
5. Lastly, Kerr-McGee should be held 100% liable for removal of this waste. Kerr-McGee's safety track record leaves a lot to be desired (i.e. Karen Silkwood). The company goes on record stating it has a responsibility to its stockholders ... Kerr-McGee must be forced to realize that its first responsibility is to the human race not the almighty dollar. Monies spent on legal fees could have paid for the shipment of thorium five times over. I also believe Kerr-McGee should reimburse the City of West Chicago for their legal fees and a good faith contribution should be made to the city for all of the years of distress caused.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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PDR STPRG ESGIL
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