THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ALBANY, NEW YORK 12230

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM, SCIENCE SERVICE

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

October 13, 1981

Mr. Kellogg V. Morton, Chief Research Contracts Branch Division of Contracts Office of Administration U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Morton

The New York State Geological Survey's research program at West Valley includes a number of stream monitoring stations. In 1980, three new all-weather stream stations were built with automated gauging and sampling gear. These require daily attention. During the winter, the stations are heated with bottled propane to keep the streams open for measurement and sampling. These stations are inaccessible by road, in fact they were carried to their sites by helicopter. They represent an investment of over \$ 200,000. In order to benefit from this investment, the stations must be maintained so that data may be obtained continuously for a full year.

Winters are severe at West Valley. Heavy snows are common. We need a substantial tracked vehicle to service these stations which involves, among other things, transport of 200 lb. propane bottles a full mile from the road. The vehicle could be used additionally in the spring and summer to transport our drilling rig in areas inaccessible to 4-wheel drive vehicles.

The machine we have selected is the Cushman Trackster. It is used in upstate NY by the electric utility and telephone companies for winter transport to inaccessible locations and has proven satisfactory to them.

Such equipment is not available from the New York State Equipment pool, because such specialized equipment is obtained for specific use by the agency in need.

We need your approval to proceed with the arrangements to rent the machine, so we will look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely yours.

R.H. Fakundiny

State Geologist and Bureau Chief

RHF/kl