



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

NOV 28 1978

PDR

Mr. Charles A. Zielinski, Chairman  
State of New York Public Service  
Commission  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12223

Dear Mr. Zielinski:

The Chairman in responding to your letter to him, dated September 12, 1978, stated that I would provide you with a more explicit response to the question of whether or not my staff will issue its final environmental statement for the Greene County application by December 15, 1978.

As a result of additional information developed during the course of the joint hearing proceedings conducted to date, uncertainties as to the acceptability of the Cementon site when compared to other alternative sites are currently being assessed. These uncertainties are primarily related to socio-economic factors brought about by the unique community tax payment structure associated with PASNY, the recent acquisition of the Lehigh Portland Cement Company by Heidelberg Cement, Inc., the relocation of New York State Route 9W, and aesthetic impact of the proposed plant at the Cementon site on a National Historic Site, Olana. I understand on the basis of informal discussions between our respective staffs that your staff is also assessing these factors. A statement from your staff at this time as to its current views would be consistent with the cooperation called for by Section XII of the Joint Protocol and would be very helpful to my staff in its deliberations. In any event, I assure you that the NRC staff will make every effort to complete its review in an expeditious manner. My staff is currently reviewing a draft report provided by our consultant laboratory. This information will form the bases for our final environmental statement provided we find it acceptable. We expect to complete our review by about November 8, 1978 and at that time I will be able to inform you either that we will issue the final environmental statement by December 15, 1978 or indicate why a later issuance date will be necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold R. Denton".

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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