

STATE OF OHIO

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

COLUMBUS 43266-0601

January 27, 1986

Mr. Nunzio J. Palladino Chairman U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

Dear Chairman Palladino:

I am writing concerning the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's finding that the burial of low-level radioactive waste at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant would have no significant environmental impact. This decision was published in the October 15, 1985, Federal Register.

As you know, the proposed disposal site is a low-lying area less than a mile from Lake Erie and only one-half mile from the Toussaint River. Individual citizens, local government officials and environmental organizations have raised many concerns about the potential effects of this proposed land disposal facility on drinking water supplies and Lake Erie's aquatic population. Several questions have also been voiced about the future uses of this land.

The NRC was apparently under no legal obligation to inform Ohio about this decision or provide an opportunity for review and comment. However, a more open debate about this proposal would serve the public interest, so in the future, inform my office in advance of regulatory matters that affect Ohio.

I ask you to conduct a public hearing in Ohio to explain your decision that this proposed waste site poses no significant environmental impact and to respond to public concerns. Additional information on the NRC's decision and the waste disposal project could help alleviate the public's fears. Greater public involvement in the decision making process could also improve the safety of the project. And finally, the NRC's credibility, which has suffered from the absence of public involvement in this decision, would benefit from a public hearing.

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Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Celeste

Governor

cc: Ohio Congressional Delegation

Sara Sibley, State of Ohio Washington Office