

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

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John P. Cahill
Commissioner

MAR 30 1999

The Honorable Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D.
Chairman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Jackson:

This is in response to the release of SECY-99-057, the NRC staff supplement to SECY-98-251, Decommissioning Criteria for West Valley.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) appreciates the Commission's attention to the specifics of the West Valley decommissioning issue, which has serious import for the citizens and the environment of the State of New York. Further, NYSDEC appreciates the openness of the Commission which allowed us to submit written comments on SECY-98-251 and attend a hearing before the Commission to formally present our comments.

We believe that SECY-99-057 provides critical additional information on issues raised in SECY-98-251, and raises important new issues of equal import to the State of New York, which warrant comments from ourselves and other interested parties. At this time, we request that the Commission formally confirm that it will accept comments on SECY-99-057 and that a deadline for submission of those comments be set.

We look forward to submitting comments on SECY-99-057. We request that the comment period end no earlier than 30 days after the Commission invites comments.

Sincerely,

Carl Johnson
Deputy Commissioner

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PDR COMMS NRCC
CORRESPONDENCE PDR

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