



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 4, 1996

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RAD PROTECTION
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Mr. William Kirk
Bureau of Radiation Protection
Department of Environmental Protection
P.O. Box 8469
Harrisburg, PA 17120-8469

Dear Mr. Kirk:

On May 16, 1996, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff met with staff of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to discuss the regulatory options for final disposition of sludge ash currently stored in an ash lagoon operated by the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority (KVVWPCA). The enclosed letter documents the results of that meeting. Mr. W. Pounds, Chief, Municipal Waste Division, Bureau of Land Recycling and Waste Management, agreed at this meeting to send site-specific information on municipal landfills in the Pennsylvania area to the NRC before the next scheduled meeting of this group, as documented in the meeting report. The purpose of this letter is to clarify our information needs to facilitate its collection and completion of our analyses.

As discussed at the meeting, we plan to prepare a more realistic appraisal of potential exposures to workers and members of the public associated with disposal of the sludge ash in a local landfill. For this purpose, we request the following data from you for each local landfill that might be a potential site for burial of the sludge ash:

1. The name and location of the landfill and its distance from the KVVWPCA site (necessary to analyze the exposures due to the transportation of the waste);
2. The annual volume of solid waste that would be disposed of in the landfill, how it would be arranged in the landfill, and the physical dimensions of the landfill (necessary to estimate dilution of the radwaste and its radiological impacts);
3. The distance from the bottom of the landfill to the water table, if known (necessary to estimate how quickly the uranium could be released from the landfill into the local groundwater); and
4. The annual precipitation at the landfill site (to estimate infiltration).

Your comments on our preliminary dose calculations, which we have made available to you, are also solicited.

We will address your comments and refine our estimates of exposure for the landfill option when we receive the above information. We estimate that we can complete our analyses within two weeks of receipt of this information.

6/7/96

In addition, we request a copy of Act 2, the Pennsylvania Land Recycling Act of 1995, and your appraisal of its potential impact on options under consideration for KVVPCA sludge ash disposal.

After we receive the information and complete our analyses, we will consult with you to schedule a meeting to review our dose assessments and continue our discussions about the final disposition of the contaminated sludge ash.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Michael F. Weber, Chief
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated

TICKET: LLDP-126

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