

March 7, 2002

Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner
State of New York
Department of Environmental Conservation
Albany, NY 12233-1010

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO CONCERNS ON DECOMMISSIONING OF THE WEST
VALLEY FACILITY

Dear Commissioner Crotty:

On October 24, 2001, we responded to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) letters of April 10, 2001, and May 14, 2001, concerning the West Valley Development Project (WVDP). In that response, we stated that issues raised in NYSDEC's letters could be more fully addressed after the Commission completes its action on the final policy statement. On February 1, 2002, the Commission's final policy statement providing decommissioning criteria for the WVDP at the West Valley site was published (67 FR 5003). I would like to take this opportunity to more fully address the issues raised in the earlier letters. Because the issues overlap, we have prepared a single response (Enclosure) which corresponds to the issues raised in your letters.

If you have any questions, please contact John Greeves, Director, Division of Waste Management, of my staff, at (301) 415-7437.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Martin J. Virgilio, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: Response to NYSDEC Issues

cc: Alice Williams, DOE WVDP
Paul Piculo, NYSERDA
Paul Merges, NYSDEC

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