

Appendix B:

Illinois Emergency Management Agency Comment Letter



Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
William C. Burke, Director

January 7, 2004

Mr. Peter R. Siebach
NEPA Compliance Officer
Safety and Technical Services
Department of Energy
9800 South Cass Avenue
Argonne, Illinois 60439

Dear Mr. Siebach:

The Governor's Office has asked the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Division of Nuclear Safety (IEMA/DNS), to review and comment on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for Decontamination and Decommissioning of the Juggernaut Reactor at Argonne National Laboratory-East (ANL-E). For reference, IEMA/DNS was known as IDNS before July 1, 2003.

The State of Illinois agrees with the overall conclusion of the report, that the proposed action is needed to ensure protection of the health and safety of the public and the environment. We do not believe that the No Action Alternative is an acceptable option.

The State has two minor comments about the elements of the proposed action. First, the summary of the characterization data does not describe the radiological condition of the concrete and soil at the base of the fuel storage holes in the basement. We suggest that this area be examined carefully for contamination. Second, we note that the proposed action is projected to generate a considerable amount of mixed low-level waste. We suggest that the generation of this waste be coordinated with the appropriate Argonne Group staff to assure that this material is properly reflected in the Proposed Site Treatment Plan for ANL-E.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this EA. I hope these comments are still useful at this late date, but as your transmittal letter suggested, the close of a comment period on December 26 was somewhat problematic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary N. Wright".

Gary N. Wright
Assistant Director

cc: Julie Curry, Deputy CoS, Labor and Economy
Office of the Governor

Kristen Richards
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