

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials

Bureau of Radiation & Hazardous Site Management, Room 460

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March 19, 2001

Ms. [REDACTED]
Project Manager
Buffalo District
Corps of Engineers
Department of the Army
1776 Niagara St.
Buffalo, NY 14207-3199

Dear [REDACTED]:

Re: Town of Tonawanda Landfill

Thank you for your letter to me of February 27, 2001, received on March 7, 2001. In that letter you requested information in support of New York State Task Force acceptance in 1989 of the Town of Tonawanda request to leave the americium-241 contamination therein and cap the Town landfill. On May 7, 1984, the Governor's Office established the "EAD Task Force." The Department of Health (DOH) was designated the lead agency for coordination of the EAD/Tonawanda radiation situation. Inquiries regarding the State's actions related to these facilities should be directed to the Department of Health. (I spoke with [REDACTED] about your request and he indicated that DOH had received the same request for information and they would be sending a response.)

For your information, the Town of Tonawanda had requested approval to dispose of americium-241 contaminated ash from the sewage treatment plant in this landfill. The Department of Environmental Conservation concluded that use of the landfill for this purpose was legally precluded. Also, all radioactively contaminated wastes from the decontamination of the EAD facility and sewers were disposed of at licensed radioactive waste disposal facilities, even though access to these facilities for New York State generators was very tenuous at that time.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Director
Bureau of Radiation & Hazardous Site Mgt.

cc: [REDACTED] DOH