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February 16, 2002

Dear Monica Abreau Conley:

This letter addresses the Recommendations for the NYSDEC ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM, prepared by the Environmental Justice Advisory Group January 2, 2002. (The Report).

I agree with most of what it says, however, there is one category which has totally been ignored and that is POWER PLANTS. There are many facilities mentioned on pages 3 and 4, but there is absolutely no mention at all about permits for electrical generating facilities (Article X's) POWER PLANTS. As you know, power plants are the greatest polluters in N.Y.S., however, nothing is mentioned about them in your Environmental Justice Program. Why is that? That's really negligent, in my opinion.

I agree with the Statue issued in 1999 which "directs the California EPA to integrate environmental justice into its mission." I agree that NYS must follow their steps as the Advisory group recommends.

Another area that Governor Pataki and the DEC commissioner should address is the 4-pollutant agenda, as Massachusetts has. This again is related to power plant emissions. Power plants are definitely MAJOR, MAJOR, projects. Something needs to be done about old and new plants, their permitting, and re-permitting.

1. Nitrogen oxides (NOx) 75% reduction, year-round.
2. Sulfur dioxide (SO2) 75% reduction, or better yet, 80%.
3. Mercury (Hg) 90% reduction.
4. Carbon dioxide (CO2) cap at 1990 levels.

I recommend that they address particulate matter (PM2.5 to PM10), emissions, also.

cc: Erin Crotty

Sincerely,

*Jeanette Nebus, M.S.E.D., B.S.N., B.S., R.N., C.S.M.-T.*