



THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

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November 19, 1979

JOSHUA LEDERBERG

PRESIDENT

Dr. Dixy Lee Ray  
Governor  
State of Washington  
Office of Government Legislative Building  
Olympia, Washington 98501

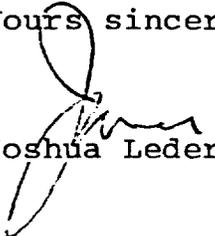
Dear Dixy Lee:

I was deeply gratified to read this morning of your action in reopening the low level radioisotope waste facilities in the state of Washington.

It is hardly necessary for me to convey how dependent the progress of medical research and important medical applications of radioisotopes have been on an orderly process for the disposal of these materials. I am sure that the new regulations with respect to the packaging and oversight of the shipments will alleviate any anxiety that may have been raised by a generalized and sometimes indiscriminating public reaction about their hazards. And, of course, it really is incumbent on all of us to seek methods of handling these materials that do not seem to put an unfair burden on any particular community, even though the benefits of research with radioisotopes embrace the citizens of Washington no less than any other part of the world.

With best personal regards.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joshua Lederberg

bcc: RWN  
RSY  
DJL

*Filed copy to RU Safety*