

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
AT ALBANY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

ALBANY, N.Y. 12222

January 4, 1973

Mr. John Purdy, President
McKownville Improvement Association
McKownville
Albany, New York 12203

Dear Mr. Purdy:

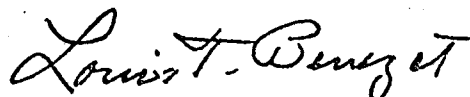
Your letter to Commissioner Diamond speaks of a situation on our campus of which I am well aware. As a campus with a strong commitment to environmental studies, particularly atmospheric science, it would indeed be ironic for us to be guilty of polluting the atmosphere.

Our engineers have consulted at length with the Department of Environmental Conservation and with the University administration about the pollution problem. For the short term, insofar as possible, we will be burning only natural gas. During the winter months, our gas allotment is limited, making it necessary for us occasionally to use oil but this will be rare and we are working with the gas company to eliminate oil entirely. This will bring the emission level below ENCON standards. The conversion to gas will cost us approximately \$160,000 per year.

For the long term, we have agreed with ENCON to install an acceptable exhaust system. This will involve replacement of the low stacks with a single, much taller stack and soot collecting devices. This should substantially lower the emission of pollutants into the atmosphere. Unfortunately, but necessarily, it will be approximately two to three years before this system can be installed.

You may be interested to know that the Environmental Conservation Department and our Atmospheric Sciences Research Center have recently entered into an agreement to collaborate on research projects. We will not allow ourselves to be an example of neglect in this area of problems. The solution, to be sure, has taken time and persuasion of Central authorities that the added cost was necessary.

Sincerely yours,



Louis T. Benezet