

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

MAY 16 1977

Honorable Paul E. Tsongas House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tsongas:

This is in further response to your recent letter to the President regarding the Dickey-Lincoln project in Maine.

The President is well aware of the strong positions taken in opposition to the Dickey-Lincoln project on economic or environmental grounds. However, he decided that Dickey-Lincoln would not undergo further review and public hearings at this time because:

- --It is not authorized for construction as are the 32 projects on which public hearings were held, and
- --The environmental studies now underway and the final NEPA environmental impact statement should be completed before final decisions on the project are made.

I hope this information is helpful in explaining the bases for the President's position regarding the Dickey-Lincoln project.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Hubert L. Harris, Jr. Assistant to the Director