

September 2, 2005

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am pleased to inform you that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), working cooperatively with the Organization of Agreement States, Inc., and individual Agreement States, has developed increased controls for materials licensees possessing quantities of concern. These controls will supplement existing requirements and will be issued by the NRC and the Agreement States to their respective licensees. When implemented by licensees, these controls, which supplement existing requirements, will contribute to ensuring that our common objectives of enhancing controls over certain radioactive sources and protecting public health and safety continue to be met.

The increased controls are being issued consistent with existing Agreements, under the Atomic Energy Act, with States for protection of public health and safety. The issuance of these controls comports with ongoing national and international efforts to address the potential health and safety hazards that could be posed by the loss of control over such radioactive sources. This approach to issuing the increased controls will maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of NRC and Agreement State inspection resources and reduce travel and other administrative costs, since safety and control requirements will be inspected in an integrated manner primarily during routine health and safety inspections or commensurate with an inspection prioritization scheme.

If you or your staff have any questions or wish additional information, please contact Mr. Paul H. Lohaus, Director of NRC's Office of State and Tribal Programs at Headquarters at 301-415-3340.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Nils J. Diaz

Identical letters sent:

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary of Energy
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The Honorable Linton F. Brooks
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National Nuclear Security Administration
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The Honorable Michael Chertoff
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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