

April 21, 2015

The Honorable Matthew H. Mead
Governor of Wyoming
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Governor Mead:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of February 27, 2015, in which you express your intent to pursue an agreement between the NRC and the State of Wyoming pursuant to Section 274b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. NRC staff is available to provide guidance to the State of Wyoming in its development of an application. If approved by the Commission, Wyoming would assume regulatory authority over radiological and non-radiological hazards adequate to protect the public health and safety and the environment with respect to byproduct material as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Atomic Energy Act and facilities that generate this material. This is premised on the State's desire to assume regulatory responsibility for such material.

As required by the Act, the NRC staff will review the application and conduct an assessment of the compatibility of the Wyoming program with the NRC's program and the adequacy of Wyoming's program to protect public health and safety with respect to the materials covered by the proposed agreement. This process generally takes 52 weeks. I want to assure you that the NRC staff will work diligently to complete its review in an expeditious manner.

After its review, the NRC staff will provide your application to the Commission. If the Commission approves the proposed agreement, the NRC will publish the text and a summary of its assessment in the *Federal Register* for public comment. The Act requires that the proposed agreement be published once each week for 4 consecutive weeks. A press release concerning the State's request will also be issued at that time. After the expiration of the comment period, the Commission will consider any comments received and make a final decision on the request. You will be notified promptly of our decision, and the NRC staff will coordinate with Wyoming's staff to establish an effective date for the agreement.

The Commission welcomes the State's interest in becoming an Agreement State and looks forward to the continued excellent relationship that the NRC and the State of Wyoming have enjoyed in the past.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Stephen G. Burns