



STATE OF ALABAMA
CIVIL DEFENSE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
MONTGOMERY 36130

FOB JAMES
GOVERNOR

May 9, 1979

JOE B. HEDRICK
ACTING DIRECTOR

Mr. Stephen N. Salmon
State Programs Officer
Office of State Programs
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Re: Draft Report - Beyond Defense-
In-Depth: Cost and Funding of
State and Local Government
Radiological Emergency Response
Plans and Preparedness in Support
of Commerical Nuclear Power
Stations, NUREG-0553, Mar.30,1979

Dear Mr. Salomon:

The draft report has been reviewed, as requested, and we essentially concur in the contents of this document. The following comments are made for your consideration.

- a. The costs for developing and exercising the plans in Alabama are probably as accurate as any set of figures we might develop. The implication, however, is that the development and exercises of the plans has been primarily the result of effort at the local level when, in fact, the major work load and guidance has been at the state level. This is not intended as a diminution of the local effort, but merely to note the primary role of the state off
- b. Page II-62. Reference is made to Alabama's preference for the "ring system" for dose assessment. However, "the current view of some NRC staff...is that the system is too expensive in view of the benefits." In this post-Three Mile Island era, it would seem appropriate to rethink this philosophy. An NRC R&D program which would install the ring system around the Brown's Ferry Plant in northern Alabama might well prove to be a most worthwhile expenditure. It certainly warrants serious consideration.

912 254

Mr. Stephen N. Salmon

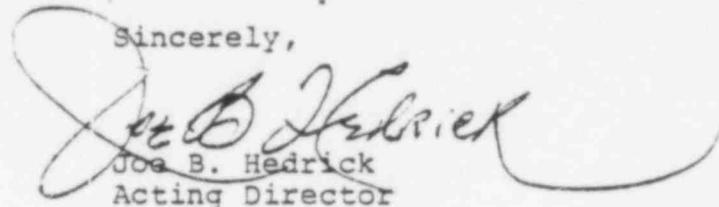
-2-

May 9, 1979

- c. Page II-116. The suggested salary for local directors (at least \$20,000) would place them at such a salary and expected expertise level in Alabama that their selection should not be under the control of local government. They should be subject to higher standards under the state merit system and also be in a more permanent position, not subject to changing administrations at either the local or the state level.

All in all, a very good report and we commend you for your effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joe B. Hedrick", is written over a typed name and title.

Joe B. Hedrick
Acting Director

JBH:DLO/th
cc: File

912 255