



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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April 6, 1979

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Manuel Lujan, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lujan:

Thank you for your letters of March 9, 1979 to the other Commissioners and me concerning the interpretation of Sections 204(e) and 204(h)(1) of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978.

The NRC staff submitted a paper to the Commission for its consideration on implementation of the Act. The Commission met on March 7, 1979 to discuss the matter. At that meeting, the State of New Mexico was represented by an assistant attorney general who requested we defer any decision until receiving a formal submission from the State. He expected such a submission would be forthcoming within a few weeks. We have, since that time, received the State of New Mexico's submission and are taking its views under advisement. In addition, we have requested additional information from other interested parties and expect to consider the matter further in the near future.

My fellow Commissioners and I appreciate your interest in this matter and wish to assure you that your views will be fully considered. We will inform you of any position the NRC takes regarding the applicability of the three year period to mill licensing actions in Agreement States when our deliberations are completed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Hendrie", is written over a horizontal line.

Joseph M. Hendrie
Chairman

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