

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ENERGY DIVISION

May 23, 1980

Chairman John F. Ahearne United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Chairman Ahearne:

I understand that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is considering the future of the Office of State Programs.

I encourage you to continue this office. The Office of State Programs has been of great assistance to the state in addressing several of the most pressing nuclear-related issues we face. Workshops on decommissioning, waste management and emergency response have helped to focus on the State/Federal role in dealing with these complex issues.

We have found the Office of State Programs helpful and responsive to our nceds for information, clarification, and guidance on issues before the NRC.

Staff members of the Office of State Programs have been helpful to committees in the State Legislature in developing legislation on emergency preparedness and reporting of incidents.

The existence of this office indicates an interest on the part of the NRC in coordination with the states and a willingness to interact in a meaningful way with the states. At a time when such interaction is more important than ever, it would be unfortunate if the Office of State Programs were discontinued.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Fitzpatrick

Under Secretary for Energy

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