

State of Alabama Department of Public Health

State Office Building Montgomery, Alabama 36130



IRA L. MYERS, M. D. STATE HEALTH OFFICER

May 26, 1980

Mr. J. F. Ahearne, Chairman U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Ahearne:

It has come to my attention that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is studying the Office of State Programs and its relationship to your management. I agree and support periodic reviews of organizational structures; however, in view of some of the questions of Congressman M. K. Udall to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, I feel that some information from the affected states is in order.

I feel that a single point of contact which can <u>effectively</u> work with all levels of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission management is vital. This contact should be of sufficient management level to provide direct; i.e. unfiltered, input to both the Commissioners and the Executive Director. Fractionating functions into other sections has <u>not</u> proven effective in the past since this results in major difficulties in getting a response for various staffs.

I strongly urge you not to subordinate the state contacts such that we cannot be effective in maintaining our agreement commitments.

Sincerely,

Ira L. Myers, M.D. State Health Officer

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cc: Alabama Congressional Delegation