

PDR



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

MAR 17 1980

Ref: SA/KNS

Robert S. Jackson, M.D.
Commissioner
South Carolina Department of Health
and Environmental Control
J. Marion Sims Building
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Dr. Jackson:

This is to confirm the discussion Mr. Kendig and Mrs. Schneider held with you following our review and evaluation of the South Carolina radiation control program. The review covered the principal administrative and technical aspects of the program. This included an examination of the program's funding and personnel resources; licensing; inspection; enforcement and incident investigation activities; field evaluations of two State inspectors; file review and the status of the State's radiation control regulations.

As a result of our review of the State's program and the routine exchange of information between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the State, the staff believes that the State's program for regulation of agreement material is adequate to protect the public health and safety and is compatible with the Commission's program.

Regarding the administrative part of the review, it was noted that the professional effort devoted to the agreement materials program was 3.8 person-years. This figure includes approximately 1.5 person-years spent on the low-level burial facility for 1979. When the time spent on the burial site is subtracted from the total effort spent on all radioactive material licenses, the level of work devoted to the remaining licenses was 0.8 professional staff years per 100 licenses which is below the NRC guidelines of 1.0 to 1.5 professional staff years per 100 licenses for those programs without complex licenses. The staff is to be commended for maintaining the quality of the program by devoting above the normal effort to their work so that other areas of the agreement material program were not impacted by the understaffing. Nonetheless, additional staffing is needed and we believe the additional personnel hired recently will aid in the effort spent during 1980. The State of South Carolina has experienced a growth rate, in terms of licensing actions per year, of about 10% per year over the last 2 years. Projected growth in workloads and complex licensing action should be carefully monitored in determining future budget and staffing levels.

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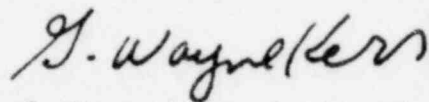
The dollars expended per license are about \$274/license. This is within the NRC suggested value of \$200 - \$350 dollars per license for programs not involved in a complex licensing actions. We note that a new fee of \$70,000 has been established for burial sites only.

During the period since our last review, we noted that the level of professional staff training was 8% of the available staff time which is within NRC suggested levels of 5% to 10% available staff time that should be spent in training. In addition, we commend the training that the attorney assigned to the Department received.

The technical aspects of the licensing and compliance file reviews were discussed with the staff in detail. I am enclosing for your information a copy of a letter to Mr. Shealy with comments regarding technical aspects of the program. I am also enclosing a second copy of each letter which should be placed in the State Public Document Room or otherwise made available for public inspection.

I appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to Mr. Kendig and Mrs. Schneider during the meeting with your staff.

Sincerely,



G. Wayne Kerr, Acting Director
Office of State Programs

Enclosures:
As stated

cc w/encls: NRC Public Document Room
State Public Document Room
H. Shealy (w/o enclosures)