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*Office of the Governor*  
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

*William J. Jenklew*  
GOVERNOR

April 9, 1980

Eugene Trager  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Uranium Recovery  
Mailstop SS-483  
7915 Eastern Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910



Dear Mr. Trager:

South Dakota is monitoring radiation levels in Edgemont to determine if health hazards exist in any of the homes, and to begin to initiate a remedial action program if needed. I have designated the State Planning Bureau as the lead agency for coordinating all efforts regarding radiation monitoring and off site remedial actions in the Edgemont area. I am making this designation to coordinate the remedial action program with the other energy development and housing programs occurring in Fall River County. Any actions concerning remedial action should be coordinated through the State Planning Bureau Commissioner, J. R. "Ric" Richardson, or Deputy Commissioner, Ben Orsbon. All other activities normally associated with the Health Department should be sent directly to that department.

The Department of Health will be conducting monitoring programs, and evaluating radioactive waste disposal, medical and research sources of radiation, uranium development, and other sources of radiation to determine the potential for impact on human health. The Health Department has the statutory authority in this area and will continue to carry out any monitoring efforts. However, all radiation monitoring and remedial action conducted by the Health Department or any other state or federal agency in the Edgemont area should be coordinated with the State Planning Bureau to obtain a comprehensive picture of the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of remedial action in that area.

Other Departments will maintain their jurisdiction related to the mining and milling of uranium, transportation of radioactive materials, and other related activities as identified below:

1. Division of Conservation, Department of Agriculture, shall maintain their activities in exploration, drilling, mining, reclamation, etc.
2. Water and Natural Resources shall be responsible for maintaining the quality of ground, surface, and drinking water, granting water rights, etc.

*State Capital Building*

*Pierre, South Dakota 57501*

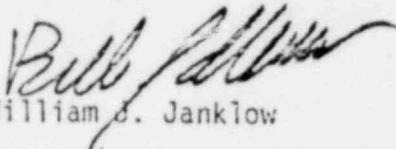
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3. The Departments of Transportation, Military and Veterans Affairs, and Public Safety shall remain involved in transportation and handling of radioactive materials.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would contact the State Planning Bureau regarding radiation monitoring, remedial action, and state policy in the Edgemont area.

Sincerely,

  
William J. Janklow

WJJ:jrr

cc: Richard W. Blair, Secretary  
S.D. Department of Health  
Joe Foss Building  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Joel C. Smith, Director  
Division of Environmental Health  
S.D. Department of Health  
Joe Foss Building  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

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