

*WCC*  
PDR *W. Smith*DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Topeka, Kansas 66620

Joseph F. Harkins, Secretary

July 24, 1980

Mr. Robert G. Ryan, Director  
Office of State Programs  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Ryan:

I am writing in response to your letter of July 21 in which you express concern regarding the budget and staff effort being devoted to the state radioactive materials program.

I concur that the increased responsibility in this program requires budget and staff supplementation. Consequently, I have placed in the Department's budget for fiscal year 1982 a request for two additional positions along with the requisite materials and supplies to support them. In addition, we have initiated the development of an interim plan to respond to the problem. We are exploring the possibility of obtaining training for staff from other programs within the Department. Individuals selected for this responsibility would already have specialized training sufficient for them to provide effective short-term support to the program until new full-time personnel are brought on board. In conjunction with this, Gerald Allen has already discussed the possibility of arranging for intensive short-term training for interim personnel within units of your agency. Your staff has been very cooperative in this matter.

I am pleased that you find the technical aspects of our program operating well. We are proud of our staff and I note they are at present doing their jobs extremely well within the limits of the

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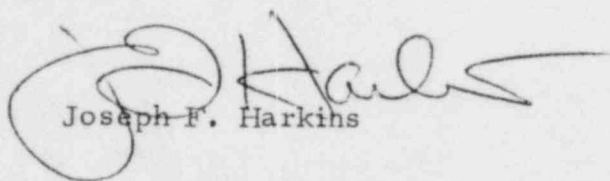
*State Program - Kansas file*

Mr. Robert G. Ryan  
Page 2 - July 24, 1980  
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staff shortages. As you may recall, this was an issue a year ago, but at that time we had several unfilled positions. This, we felt, was caused primarily by inadequate salary levels for personnel in this particular program. We have since corrected that and all positions have been filled. Since having a full complement of personnel has not completely alleviated the problem, we will, as I have indicated, move to expand the staff immediately.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention. We enjoy the good relationship between your agency and ours, and I can assure you that we will do everything necessary to bring our program up to the requisite level.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph F. Harkins

JFH/ob

CC: Gerald Allen  
Gerald Stoltenberg