

Terry Lash, Ph.D., Director
 Department of Nuclear Safety
 1035 Outer Park Drive
 Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Dr. Lash:

The staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has reviewed the request for the Amended Agreement package submitted by Governor Thompson on April 11, 1989. As a result of our review, we believe the proposal has successfully addressed a number of issues that we brought to the attention of the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (IDNS) staff by letter dated December 20, 1988. However, portions of the Illinois proposal will require modifications prior to consummation of an amended agreement. The NRC staff has identified these required changes in the enclosed Part A. Other comments have been provided and are identified as Parts B, C, and D. Part B contains comments regarding IDNS proposed standards that NRC staff believes to be more stringent than NRC standards. Part C identifies those standards within the proposed regulation which are not addressed in NRC's 10 CFR Part 40 regulations. Part D provides comments and recommendations on the proposed regulation that, if accepted by IDNS, the NRC staff believes would clarify the regulations, thereby reducing the potential for misunderstanding. The comments in Parts B, C, and D do not require any action by the State, but are provided for your consideration. Several of the NRC staff comments resulted from changes based on new information submitted by IDNS. Others are the results of further in-depth analysis by the NRC staff.

Upon receipt of a copy of the Illinois revised proposal, we will continue our processing of the request and publish our assessment of the proposed amendment in the Federal Register for public comment.

We are pleased with your continued interest in the NRC's Agreement State Program and look forward to the relationship we have enjoyed in the past.

Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton, Director
 Office of Governmental and
 Public Affairs

Enclosures:

As stated
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