

WASHINGTON PDK



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
101 MARIETTA ST., N.W., SUITE 3100  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

SEP 22 1980

In Reply Refer To:  
RII:JPS

Mr. Heyward G. Shealy, Chief  
Bureau of Radiological Health  
South Carolina Department of  
Health and Environmental Control  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Shealy:

This is in response to your letter of August 26, 1980, requesting our assistance in resolving a problem concerning radioactive waste shipment inspections which are conducted at the Chem-Nuclear Systems, Inc. (CNSI), low-level waste disposal facility in Snelling, South Carolina. Your letter indicated that, although you have appreciated our assistance and cooperation during the joint inspections, which were prompted by the request of the Governor, and the generally excellent working relationship we have enjoyed, new State regulations have resulted in the creation of problems related to lack of coordination with regard to mutual enforcement actions.

This office recognized the possibility of problems of this sort related to transportation inspection activities and had discussed this matter previously with our NRC Headquarters counterparts. Action has already been initiated at the HQ level to treat the generic aspects of this overall problem.

Our intent was to first meet with the agencies involved to discuss the matter, and then to formulate a reasonable, mutually agreed upon, approach to solving the problems we are both presented with. This type of meeting still seems appropriate. Therefore, J. Philip Stohr, Chief of the Fuel Facility and Materials Safety Branch, will contact you in the near future to arrange for such a meeting if you are agreeable. Until subsequent decisions with regard to possible policy revisions, our joint inspection effort at the burial site will continue in accordance with our commitment to the Governor. During this meeting, it would be appropriate for you to discuss some of the specific examples of State problems cited in your letter, as we are not familiar with the details and had no particular knowledge prior to your letter. We are, of course, interested in correcting any specific problems that may exist.

Mr. Heyward G. Shealy

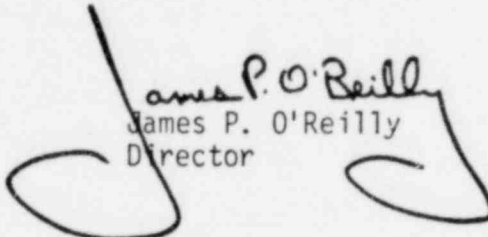
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As you're probably aware, the NRC has formulated a new enforcement policy which is being published in the Federal Register for comment. Any comments you would care to make with regard to this new policy would be most timely. If needed, we would be happy to provide a copy of the new policy at your request.

We appreciate your informing us of your concerns and share your desire to improve the coordination and effectiveness of the working relationships between the State and Federal agencies. We look forward to continuing to work effectively with you in this particular area and other appropriate areas in the future.

Sincerely,

  
James P. O'Reilly  
Director