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FRANK A. ASHBY, JR. SECRETARY

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

February 17, 1981

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John F. Ahearne, Chairman U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Ahearne:

Your letter of January 16, 1981 to Governor Treen, relative to proposed transportation rulemaking, has been given to me for reply.

In the proposed rule to amend 10 CFR 71 concerning advance notification to states, the State of Louisiana feels that some alternative to notifying the governor should be allowed at his discretion. Those agencies within a state which respond to accidents or incidents are the logical recipients of such notice should the governor so desire.

With regard to the proposed rule to amend 10 CFR 73 concerning advance notification to governors, in line with the possible desire of a governor not to receive shipment information, provision to designate an alternate, as suggested in Section B of the "Discussion of Proposed Rule," should be specifically made.

In each of the above cases, it is felt that the governor should not be disturbed unless there has been an event which requires his taking direct action; otherwise those agencies with responsibilities delegated by statute should be the recipients of such information. A single point of contact could be designated by the governor to act in his behalf to receive and disseminate such information, as required. On the other hand, those agencies which "espond to radiation incidents likewise have an obligation to notify the governor in case of an untoward event.

With regard to the proposed rule to amend 10 CFR 73 relative to the protection of "safeguards information," the State of Louisiana feels that the NRC is prescribing adequate security measures for this type of information and, therefore, has no additional comments.

The agencies within the State of Louisiana having statutory authority to plan for and respond to radiological transportation incidents are the Nuclear Energy Division under the Office of Environmental Affairs, Department of Natural L-4-1, P+73

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Resources, and the Hazardous Substances Emergency Response Unit under the Office of the State Police, Department of Public Safety. Such authority is found in the Louisiana Revised Statutes 30:1104, 30:1111, and 32:1501 et seq. and in appropriate rules and regulations promulgated by these state agencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these proposed changes.

Sincerely,

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B. Jim Porter State Liaison Officer

BJP:WHS:dbz

cc: Governor Treen Secretary Ashby