JOHN SPELLMAN Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Olympia, Washington 98504

April 8, 1981

Mr. G. Wayne Kerr, Director Office of State Programs U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Kerr:

I have reviewed your March 4, 1981 letter in which you describe the results of the Commission's compatibility review of our radiation control program, and take this opportunity to respond to two of your suggestions. First, you noted that promotional opportunities are limited. As suggested by Mrs. Schneider at the time of the inspection, my staff is now working to fill this promotional gap with a new senior professional class of positions. The establishment of this new class should be accomplished later this year and will offer the necessary promotional opportunities needed to maintain a well trained staff of professionals.

Concerning your comment about the University of Washington, Dr. Beare has already held an encouraging management meeting with the University's Vice-President for Health Affairs. Additional compliance inspections are scheduled. The University understands that additional escalated enforcement actions may result from these inspections. As a direct result of your review, the department has authorized temporary manpower for the radiation control program to prevent our routine program from suffering while we attack the problem at the University. We are committed to bring the University of Washington into full compliance with our regulatory requirements, and view these steps as essential in achieving this goal.

I am gratified to learn that our program remains adequate to protect the public health and safety and compatible with the program of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. It is my intention to continue to adequately support our radiation control program.

Sincerely,

ALAN J. GIBBS

Secretary

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Secretary