

March 17, 1979

Telephone 826-4870 Area Code 205

Honorable Joseph M. Hendrie, Chairman U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555

Read recently of the formation of a separate Division for waste management. As a chronicler of radiation protection events this decision seems important to me. It should be recorded in the history I am preparing; in its own context of staff studies, DOE studies, NAS studies, and NCRP recommendations.

Additionally, the NRC staff study which recommends continuing the maximum quarterly dose of 3 Rem while discontinuing the "bank account" principle, and limiting annual dose to 5 Rem—is also an event that swould be recorded in its own context. The staff proposal apparently centered around the conviction that ALARA compliance should be capable of objective evaluation.

These are important decisions and proposals which will have their impact both tangible and intangible on future radiation protection standards, regulations, and legislation; accordingly, I would appreciate copies of those available documents which led to their formation. My intention is to extract the historical thread and enter the events into a chronology I am preparing; the NRC-supplied documentation could then be returned as necessary.

It is important that someone chronicle these events <u>now</u> when the development of each is still clear and not obscured by time. This is an unbudgeted, self-appointed task I have undertaken; if the NRC has someone performing a similar task I would be happy to share my first efforts with them, a 220-page preliminary (mimeograph) edition, to establish a framework for further development.

Thank you for any support you can give my project. Have a nice day.

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Robert L. Bell, Director Office of Radiological Safety

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