

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

QUESTION 30 Enclosure 6

March 4, 1991

NOTE FOR:

Mike Weber, OCM/KC Susan Bilhorn, OCM/KR Janet Kotra, OCM/JC Regis Boyle, OCM/FR

IDAHO RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM

Please see attached, a daily note regarding take back of the Idaho Agreement State Program which was provided to Ann Tipton as a Daily Highlight.

Vanpy L. Milter, AD/SP/GPA

STATE PROGRAMS DAILY HIGHLIGHT

SUBJECT: TELEPHONE RESPONSE BY IDAHO ON RETURN OF THEIR AGREEMENT TO NRC MARCH 1, 1991

This is to inform the Commission that a return call was received from Mr. Richard Donovan, Director, Department of Health and Welfare, State of Idaho, informing Mr. Carlton Kammerer, Director, State Programs, that the State of Idaho will be returning their Agreement State program back to NRC. Mr. Kammerer had placed a call earlier to Mr. Donovan because this was the date the State was to inform State Programs of their decision. Also participating in this telephone call was Mr. Dick Schultz, Director, Department of Environmental Quality, and Mr. Vandy Miller, Assistant Director for State Agreements Program.

Mr. Donovan further stated that the State will be informing the NRC officially by letter the week of March 4, 1991. Mr. Kammerer stated that he would relay their position to the Commission and that the State letter should be signed by their Governor. Mr. Kammerer further stated that he had met with Chairman Carr today regarding Idaho's situation and that he wanted him to relay to the State that if they would be able to get resources to turn Idaho's program around, the NRC would be able to provide some technical assistance and give their State priority on training courses.

STATE PROGRAMS WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 15, 1991

Part 36 Large Irradiator Rule Public Workshop

NRC conducted a public workshop on the proposed large irradiator rule (10 CFR Part 36) on February 12-13, 1991 in Rockville, Maryland. Greta Dicus, Director of the Arkansas Division of Radiological Control and Emergency Management, was a member of the panel receiving public comments on the proposed rule. James Setzer, Georgia Department of Natural Resources and Chairperson of the Governor's Task Force to review the Radiation Sterilizers, Inc. leaking irradiator source incident, presented a summary of the Task Force's findings and recommendations. Staff from the radiation control programs of Texas and Maryland also participated in the workshop.

Idaho Radiation Control Program

Carlton Kammerer, Director, State Programs, sent a letter dated February 13, 1991 to Mr. Richard Donovan, Director, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. The letter expressed the NRC's concerns regarding the lack of an adequate staff for the Agreement Materials Program and the continued increase in licensing and inspection backlog in the Department's Hazardous Materials Bureau. The letter further stated that the NRC may soon be required to initiate plans to undertake the regulatory functions in Idaho. Mr. Kammerer requested that the State inform him within 48 hours of receipt of the letter of its plans to deal with these concerns. Mr. Donovan responded by telephone on February 14, 1991 that he had been in communication with the Governor's office and that the budget was currently under consideration. He requested a two week extension to respond with a plan. The two week extension was granted, although Mr. Kammerer emphasized NRC's serious concern about the health and safety in the State. Mr. Kammerer also stated that he or his staff would be available to provide assistance such as meeting with the Governor or the legislature.

STATE PROGRAMS WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

November 9, 1990

Well Logging Course

Robert Doda, Region IV State Agreements Officer, conducted a well logging course on November 5-9, 1990 in Houston, Texas. Instruction on well logging techniques and safety was given to 28 students- 22 State, 5 NRC and 1 Canadian.

Tennessee Radiation Control Program Follow-up Review

Richard Woodruff, Region 11 State Agreements Officer, began a follow-up review of the Tennessee Radiation Control Program on November 6-8, 1990 in Nashville, Tennessee. This review is intended to follow-up on problems identified during the last review. The December 1989 review identified problems in overdue inspections and out-of-date regulations which prevented NRC findings of adequacy and compatibility of the program. The review will continue on November 13-15, 1990. An exit meeting with J. W. Luna, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Health and Environment, is scheduled for November 29, 1990.

Referendum to Close Trojan Fails in Oregon

Oregon voters decided by a 3-2 ratio not to approve a State-wide referendum which would have closed the Trojan Nuclear Plant until the State's Energy Facility Siting Council could make findings that 1) a permanent radioactive waste repository was federally licensed and accepting waste; 2) the plant was then cost-effective; and 3) the plant could withstand a major earthquake without harm to the public. Voters turned down a similar measure in 1986.

Illinois LLW Referendum

In a non-binding referendum, residents of Clark County, Illinois voted by approximately 80%-20% against the siting of a LLW disposal facility in the County. However, residents of Martinsville, Illinois (the community closest to the proposed site) voted to accept the disposal facility by approximately 56%-44%.

Idaho Radiation Control Program

Harold Denton, Director, GPA, after being briefed by Carlton Kammerer, Director, State Programs, on Mr. Kammerer's visit to Idaho on November 2, 1990 to discuss several concerns regarding the inadequacy of the State's Agreement State program, called Mr. Joe Nagel, Environmental Division, Idaho Health and Welfare Department. The purpose of Mr. Denton's call was to further emphasize the NRC's concerns and to get a commitment for correction actions, especially in the area of the large inspection backlog.