

KRISTINE M GEBBIE
Secretary



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

1112 S.E. Quince St., MS. ET-21
Olympia, Washington 98504
(206) 753-5871 • (SCAN) 234-5871

November 26, 1990

90 DEC -5 AM 9:54

GPA/SLTP

GK
VA
JL
State Board
WA file

Carlton Kammerer, Director
State Programs
Office of Governmental and Public Affairs
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Kammerer:

The State of Washington endorses the Agreement State Program authorized by Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act. The close working relationship which exists, between The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Department of Health (DOH), is a good example of how the state and federal governments should cooperate in the implementation of public health and safety programs. The NRC's periodic reviews of the radiation protection program, including exchange between reviewers and program staff, results in the steady improvement of our program.

Washington State DOH staff knew well in advance of your August 1990 program review that the state's Rules and Regulations for Radiation Protection would not be compatible with the requirements of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. This is significant issue for me. We established priorities and a work schedule for the program which means, however, it will be several more months before we can complete modification of our regulations to bring them into compatibility with NRC requirements.

As a part of establishing the new DOH, all of the rules and regulations of the DOH are being brought into a single title within the Washington Administrative Code. We will make these the changes necessary for compatibility at the same time. This may take as much as nine additional months but will be completed.

I am aware of the repeat citations, and actions are underway to resolve these as quickly as possible. With regard to the quality of emergency planning, detailed corrections to the Emergency Response Plan concerning radioactive materials licensees have been made in accordance with the detail comments made by Jack Hornor.

9012130290 901126
PDR STPRG ESGWA
PDC

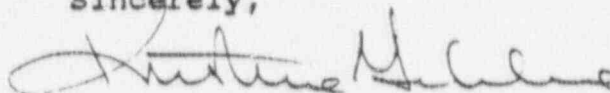
SP01
110

Carlton Kammerer, Director
November 26, 1990
Page Two

I have asked Terry Strong, Director of our Radiation Protection Division, to respond directly to you on the detailed findings in the enclosure to your October 25 letter.

We look forward to your next program review which I understand will take place within the next 12 months.

Sincerely,



KRISTINE M. GEBBIE
Secretary

cc: Terry Strong