



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
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Harry Hughes, Governor

Charles R. Buck, Jr., Sc.D. Secretary

January 21, 1983

Mr. Ronald Haynes
Regional Administrator
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Haynes:

This is in response to your agency's comments and recommendations following its critique of the Maryland Radiation Control Program. In general, deficiencies were noted in program staffing, regulation development, and the technical quality of licensing actions. This correspondence will address staffing concerns and regulation development. Under separate cover, Mr. William M. Eichbaum, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Programs, will coordinate a reply regarding the technical issues.

The backlog of licensing actions and inspections is the result of redefining the priorities of a small staff in order to develop and maintain an emergency response capability. To address this need, the Department is currently recruiting for two health physicists and is negotiating the development of a special funding source which will allow further enhancement of the staff in the Radiation Control Program.

Since 1980 the Department has been attempting to revise its radiation control regulations. I am pleased to announce that these regulations were promulgated on December 6, 1982.

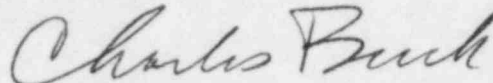
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Mr. Ronald Haynes
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I appreciate the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's program review. I can assure you that every effort will be made to correct the deficiencies noted.

Sincerely yours,



Charles R. Buck, Jr., Sc.D.
Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene

CRB:js

cc: Mr. William M. Eichbaum
Mr. David L. Resh, Jr.
Mr. Robert E. Corcoran