

**From:** Thomas Rich  
**To:** PHL  
**Date:** 7/1/96 12:40pm  
**Subject:** FYi - Maryland Agreement State Review

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Ray Manley called me last week and asked several questions dealing with SS&D issues. One of his concerns, was that only one technical review was being performed during the safety evaluations process. He asked what NRC's policy is regarding this matter. I told him that it has been our policy that all safety evaluations require two independent safety reviews and that these reviews be performed by the technical staff. He asked whether NRC would accept the review if one of the reviews was performed by a technical person and the other by an administrator. I stated that as long as both persons were qualified to perform a safety evaluation (i.e., had necessary background, training and experience) it did not matter whether or not one person was a manager and the other was technical staff. He stated that this was not the case in Maryland, that only one person was qualified to perform the review.

He then asked what happens during NRC's review of their program? Does NRC check if two independent reviews were performed? I stated that we check to see if the certificates have two signatures and that we review the qualifications of the persons performing the safety evaluation.

We have stated our policy and provided the need for independent reviews during the last workshop. In addition, during the NC review, we stated this requirement as one of the additional recommendations.

The commission paper (SECY-95-136), mentions the establishment of revised minimum criteria for adequate and compatible Agreement State programs. However, I am not aware if the minimum criteria have been established, and if so, whether they state the requirements for signatures on the SS&D certificates.

You may want to have the IMPEP team review this and its impact on safety evaluations.

**CC:** SLB, DAC, FCC, LWC, JWL, DAB, MLB5

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