

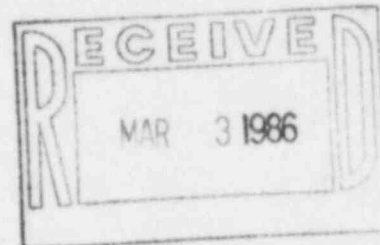


STATE OF NEBRASKA

ROBERT KERREY • GOVERNOR • GREGG F. WRIGHT, M.D., M.Ed. • DIRECTOR

Docket No: 99990004/85-10

25 February 1986



Robert D. Martin
Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, TX 76011

Dear Mr. Martin:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your December 3, 1985 letter concerning the acceptance appraisal by Messrs. J. Blair Nicholas and Blaine Murray conducted October 17-18, 1985, for the proposed NRC/State of Nebraska Environmental Monitoring Cooperative Agreement around Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station and Cooper Nuclear Station.

The discussion of the appraisal results was very beneficial and helpful. We are interested in pursuing this cooperative agreement which we understand will be effective January 1, 1986.

The concerns identified in paragraph three of your appraisal report have been reviewed and we are providing our response to them in the order listed.

1. The Division of Laboratories has provided for additional technician support for the radiochemistry laboratory. This consisted of the addition of a technician, to work at least part-time in radiochemistry, and the adjustment of another laboratory individual's schedule to allow for additional assistance in this area. We feel that this additional technician support adequately addresses this concern.
2. The Division of Radiological Health has been since July 1985, increasing the level of our environmental monitoring program around the two nuclear power plant sites. The split sampling program with Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station was initiated in July 1985. The split sampling program with Cooper Nuclear Station commenced in January 1986 we have also increased the number of TLD sites around both plants and have increased the number of air samples collected weekly around one of the sites. The Division is currently discussing and evaluating the possibility of increasing the level of its environmental surveillance program even further around both sites.

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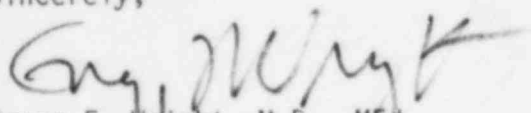
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3. The Division of Radiological Health is currently reviewing and updating the appropriate procedures. They are also being formatted to include for each procedure a title page indicating title, author, procedure number, revision number, date of issuance and supervision authorizing approval for use. The Division of Laboratories is also reviewing and updating their procedures and formatting them according to the above format. Both Divisions are in the process of developing those procedures necessary to cover sample collection, sample control, sample preparation and sample analysis and any others needed. This appears to be an ongoing continual process and should be accomplished during the initial year of the contract.
4. The Division of Laboratories, Radiation Chemistry, has been working on developing the calibration data for the quarterly composite standard of 12-13 air particulate filters. They also are developing the fish or meat, vegetation/food products calibration standards. The standards will be prepared to the necessary specifications which will meet the lower limits of detectability and analysis requirements of the cooperative agreement and the Nuclear Data gamma spectroscopy system calibrated for all required counting geometrics. This should be accomplished prior to the analysis of the appropriate media.
5. The laboratory staff is currently verifying that all the required LLD's in the cooperative agreement are being met. Those LLD's that are not being met, the analytical procedures will be modified to meet the required LLD's. This should be completed within the next couple of months.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Harold R. Borchert, Director, Division of Radiological Health or myself.

Sincerely,


Gregg F. Wright, M.D., MEd.
Director of Health

GFW/HRB/cm

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