

February 4, 1999

SECY-99-039

FOR: The Commissioners

FROM: William D. Travers /s/  
Executive Director for Operations

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF OHIO AND THE  
COMMISSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 274 OF THE ATOMIC  
ENERGY ACT OF 1954, AS AMENDED

PURPOSE:

To inform the Commission of the staff's intent to publish the proposed Agreement requested by Ohio in the Federal Register (FR) for public comment.

SUMMARY:

By letter dated June 22, 1998, Governor George V. Voinovich requested that the Commission enter into an Agreement with the State of Ohio under Section 274b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Act). As required by Section 274e of the Act, staff plans to publish the text of the proposed Agreement in the FR. The FR notice will include a summary of the staff's draft assessment of the proposed Ohio regulatory program for materials subject to the Agreement, and identify three specific conditions related to the Ohio program staff that must be met before the Agreement is signed. Comments on the Agreement, the assessment, and the conditions will be requested.

BACKGROUND:

Section 274b of the Act authorizes the Commission to enter into an agreement with the Governor of a State providing for the discontinuance of the regulatory authority of the Commission with respect to certain materials. The Commission, in 1981, adopted the revised policy statement entitled, "Criteria for Guidance of States and NRC in Discontinuance of NRC Regulatory Authority and Assumption Thereof by States Through Agreement" (46 FR 7540; January 23, 1981), as amended by statements published on July 16, 1981 (46 FR 36969), and

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Contact: Richard L. Blanton, OSP  
415-2322

on July 21, 1983, (48 FR 33376), referred to hereafter as the "policy statement." Subsequently, staff adopted an internal procedure for applying the policy statement in the processing of a new agreement. The criteria elements and approaches in these documents form the basis for the staff's evaluation of the Ohio request.

Governor Voinovich was succeeded in office by Governor Bob Taft on January 11, 1999. Former Governor Voinovich is now a United States Senator from Ohio.

#### DISCUSSION:

In his letter, Governor Voinovich requested that the Commission enter into an Agreement with the State of Ohio pursuant to Section 274b of the Act. Governor Voinovich certified that Ohio has a program for the control of radiation hazards which is adequate to protect public health and safety within the State with respect to the materials covered by the proposed Agreement. The Governor further certified that the State wishes to assume the regulatory responsibility for those materials. Copies of Governor Voinovich's letter, and Chairman Jackson's response, are attached (Attachments 1 and 2). The addition of Ohio will bring the number of Agreement States to 31.

The Governor requested that authority for all six categories of materials transferrable under an Agreement be discontinued by the Commission. The categories of materials are: (1) byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(1) of the Act; (2) byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Act (i.e., uranium and thorium milling activities); (3) source materials; (4) special nuclear materials in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass; (5) the regulation of the land disposal of 11e.(1) byproduct, source, or special nuclear waste materials received from other persons; and (6) the evaluation of radiation safety information on sealed sources or devices containing 11e.(1) byproduct, source, or special nuclear materials and the registration of the sealed sources or devices for distribution, as provided for in regulations or Commission approved actions.

The text of the proposed Agreement is included in the FR notice in Attachment 3. Originally, an effective date for the Agreement of December 1, 1998, was proposed. This date proved impractical for several reasons. First, Ohio was unable to hire, train, and qualify an adequate number of staff by that date; and second, further development of the program's procedures and regulatory guidance was needed.

NRC staff notes that Ohio may not have an adequate number of staff in the Agreement materials program when the Agreement is otherwise ready to take effect. It is the NRC staff position that an individual must be hired, trained, and qualified in accordance with the Ohio training and qualification procedure BRP-IN-100 (at least interim qualification) before a staff position is considered filled. In response to NRC comments about the staffing plan, Ohio conducted an analysis and determined that minimum staff of 21 professional/technical members, including supervisors, would be needed to operate the Agreement materials program during the first year. NRC staff reviewed the analysis and concurs with the results. The Ohio staffing plan includes additional positions in the Agreement materials program that are reserved for anticipated workload increases after the first year.

As of January 25, 1999, Ohio had filled 13 of the Agreement program staff positions and all five

of the supervisor positions, and was actively working to fill the other vacancies. The Ohio program director estimates that the vacancies can be filled by April 30, 1999 (see Attachment 8). NRC staff recommends that Ohio be required to have the minimum staff of 16 health physicists and five supervisors filled before the Agreement is signed. As explained above, a staff health physicist must be hired, trained, and qualified (including use of interim qualification) in order for the position to be considered filled.

The Act requires the proposed Agreement to be published in the Federal Register once a week for four consecutive weeks. NRC staff estimates that 120 days will be required to complete the formal processing of the Agreement, starting the day the proposed Agreement is published for the first time. If publication is delayed until the Ohio vacancies are filled, the Agreement could be delayed beyond the current schedule for having an Agreement in effect by July 22, 1999. (See Attachment 7).

To minimize the delay, NRC staff plans to publish the proposed Agreement without waiting for the Ohio staff positions to be filled. Under this proposal, NRC staff will receive and address public comments, and when successfully resolved, propose Commission acceptance of the Agreement with the proviso that the Agreement will not be signed until the Ohio program satisfies three conditions as discussed below. This plan allows the Commission to satisfy the requirements of the Act for executing the Agreement in parallel with the recruitment, training, and qualification of the Ohio staff. Ohio will be provided additional time to complete staffing without incurring further delay in the effective date of the Agreement.

The Agreement would not be signed until three commitments made by Ohio are met. First, the State will fill the vacant staff positions. Second, the distribution of individual staff member qualifications will match the expected distribution of categories of licensees to be transferred from NRC. For example, there must be enough inspectors qualified to inspect industrial radiography operations that the program is able to inspect the number of industrial radiography licensees transferred from NRC without developing a backlog. Third, each individual staff member will be qualified, in accordance with the Ohio training and qualification plan (including use of interim qualification), to function in the areas of responsibility to which the individual is assigned.

NRC staff recognizes that the Ohio position descriptions for technical staff specify educational requirements consistent with the educational requirements for equivalent NRC staff. Ohio also has a formal plan for the training and qualification of technical staff that provides assurance of staff competence equivalent to the assurance provided by NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 1246. These factors, combined with the three conditions, will assure that the Ohio program has an adequate number of trained and qualified individual staff members. The three conditions will be clearly identified in the FR notice, and public comment invited.

The Commission should note that Ohio adopted, in statute, a definition of the term "decommissioning" which does not permit the termination of a license unless the licensed premises are decontaminated sufficiently to meet the criteria for release and unrestricted use. Staff analyzed the issue and concluded that the approach Ohio would use in decommissioning is consistent with the NRC approach of license termination under restricted release conditions, as provided in 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E. Ohio's approach to decommissioning and the rationale for the staff position was presented to the Commission in SECY-98-209, and accepted

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in the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) dated November 20, 1998, as compatible with NRC's approach.

For the Massachusetts Agreement, staff obtained Commission consent prior to publishing the proposed Agreement in the Federal Register for public comment. The Commission reviewed the staff's preliminary assessment of the Massachusetts program, then approved the publication by notation vote. To improve timeliness, staff plans to publish the proposed Ohio Agreement for public comment in parallel with the Commission's review of the staff's draft assessment. As was done for the Massachusetts Agreement, staff will include an analysis of the public comments in a final decision paper recommending Commission approval of the Ohio Agreement.

The staff also notes that there are two ongoing NRC adjudicatory proceedings involving NRC materials licensees in Ohio (Advanced Medical Services (AMS), and Shieldalloy). Consistent with past practice, these NRC proceedings will terminate at the time the Agreement becomes effective and the licensing status for these licensees will return to the status that existed before the NRC action that gave rise to the NRC adjudicatory proceeding (e.g., for AMS, the timely application for renewal of its license will be pending before the State of Ohio).

The NRC staff believes that the Ohio request for an Agreement, as supplemented with additional information in response to NRC staff comments, with the proviso related to the program staff as discussed above, meets the criteria set forth in §274 of the Act and in the policy statement. This conclusion is based on the NRC staff assessment of the proposed program against the 36 criteria contained in the policy statement (Attachment 4).

#### SCHEDULE:

Unless directed otherwise by the Commission, the staff plans to forward the notice of the proposed Agreement to the FR ten working days after this paper is forwarded to the Commission. Attached is a milestone schedule for the completion of the Agreement (Attachment 7).

#### COORDINATION:

This paper has been coordinated with the Office of the General Counsel, which has no legal objection. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this Commission paper for resource implications and has no objections.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Commission:

1. Review:

The proposed Agreement between the State of Ohio and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission pursuant to Section 274 of the Act (Attachment 3), and the draft of the NRC staff assessment of the Ohio regulatory program (Attachment 4), in parallel with the publication of the proposed Agreement in the FR.

2. Note:

- a. Staff will place a copy of the full staff assessment (summarized in the FR notice) in the Public Document Room. (Attachment 4)
- b. Governor Voinovich's letter was acknowledged by a letter from the Chairman (Attachment 2).
- c. The Office of Congressional Affairs will dispatch a letter to the cognizant Congressional Committees informing them that the Commission is considering entering into an Agreement with the State (Attachment 5).
- d. The Office of Public Affairs will issue a press release (Attachment 6).

original /s/ by

William D. Travers  
Executive Director  
for Operations

Attachments:

1. Letter from Governor Voinovich to Chairman Jackson
2. Acknowledgment Letter from Chairman Jackson to Governor Voinovich
3. Draft Federal Register Notice, including the Proposed Agreement
4. Draft NRC Staff Assessment of the Proposed Ohio Agreement Materials Program
5. Draft Letter to Congressional Committees
6. Draft Press Release
7. Milestone Schedule for Completion of the Agreement
8. Memorandum from Roger Suppes to Paul Lohaus dated January 20, 1999

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# ATTACHMENT 1



## ATTACHMENT 2



## ATTACHMENT 3

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

State of Ohio: NRC Staff Assessment of a Proposed Agreement Between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the State of Ohio.

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of a proposed Agreement with the State of Ohio.

**SUMMARY:** By letter dated June 22, 1998, former Governor George V. Voinovich of Ohio requested that the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) enter into an Agreement with the State as authorized by Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Act). Under the proposed Agreement, the Commission would give up, and Ohio would take over, portions of the Commission's regulatory authority exercised within the State. As required by the Act, NRC is publishing the proposed Agreement for public comment. NRC is also publishing the summary of an assessment by the NRC staff of the Ohio regulatory program. Comments are requested on the proposed Agreement, especially its effect on public health and safety. Comments are also requested on the NRC staff assessment, the adequacy of the Ohio program staff, and the State's commitments concerning the program staff, as discussed in this notice.

The proposed Agreement would release (exempt) persons who possess or use certain radioactive materials in Ohio from portions of the Commission's regulatory authority. The Act requires that NRC publish those exemptions. Notice is hereby given that the pertinent exemptions have been previously published in the Federal Register and are codified in the Commission's regulations as 10 CFR Part 150.

**DATES:** The comment period expires (30 days after the first publication). Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission cannot assure consideration of comments received after the expiration date.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be submitted to Mr. David L. Meyer, Chief, Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of

Administration, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Copies of comments received by NRC may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW. (Lower Level), Washington, DC. Copies of the proposed Agreement, copies of the request for an Agreement by the Governor of Ohio including all information and documentation submitted in support of the request, and copies of the full text of the NRC staff assessment are also available for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard L. Blanton, Office of State Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Telephone (301) 415-2322 or e-mail [rlb@nrc.gov](mailto:rlb@nrc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Since Section 274 of the Act was added in 1959, the Commission has entered into Agreements with 30 States. The Agreement States currently regulate approximately 16,000 agreement material licenses, while NRC regulates approximately 5800 licenses. Under the proposed Agreement, approximately 550 NRC licenses will transfer to Ohio. NRC periodically reviews the performance of the Agreement States to assure compliance with the provisions of Section 274.

Section 274e requires that the terms of the proposed Agreement be published in the Federal Register for public comment once each week for four consecutive weeks. This notice is being published in fulfillment of the requirement.

## **I. Background**

(a) Section 274d of the Act provides the mechanism for a State to assume regulatory authority, from the NRC, over certain radioactive materials<sup>1</sup> and activities that involve use of the materials. In a letter dated June 22, 1998, Governor Voinovich certified that the State of Ohio has a program for the control of radiation hazards that is adequate to protect public health and safety within Ohio for the materials and activities specified in the proposed Agreement, and that

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<sup>1</sup>The radioactive materials, sometimes referred to as "agreement materials," are: (a) byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(1) of the Act; (b) byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Act; (c) source materials as defined in Section 11z. of the Act; and (d) special nuclear materials as defined in Section 11aa. of the Act, restricted to quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass.



the State desires to assume regulatory responsibility for these materials and activities. Included with the letter was the text of the proposed Agreement, which is shown in Appendix A to this notice.

The radioactive materials and activities (which together are usually referred to as the “categories of materials”) which the State of Ohio requests authority over are: (1) the possession and use of byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(1) of the Act; (2) the generation, possession, use, and disposal of byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Act; (3) the possession and use of source materials; (4) the possession and use of special nuclear materials in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass; (5) the regulation of the land disposal of byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(1) of the Act, source, or special nuclear waste materials received from other persons; and (6) the evaluation of radiation safety information on sealed sources or devices containing byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(1) of the Act, source, or special nuclear materials and the registration of the sealed sources or devices for distribution, as provided for in regulations or orders of the Commission.

(b) The proposed Agreement contains articles that:

- Specify the materials and activities over which authority is transferred;
  - Specify the activities over which the Commission will retain regulatory authority;
  - Continue the authority of the Commission to safeguard nuclear materials and restricted data;
  - Commit the State of Ohio and NRC to exchange information as necessary to maintain coordinated and compatible programs;
  - Provide for the reciprocal recognition of licenses;
  - Provide for the suspension or termination of the Agreement;
  - Provide for the transfer of any financial surety funds collected by Ohio for reclamation or long-term surveillance of sites for the disposal of byproduct materials (as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Act) to the United States if custody of the material and the disposal site are transferred;
- and
- Specify the effective date of the proposed Agreement. The Commission reserves the option to modify the terms of the proposed Agreement in response to comments, to correct errors, and to make editorial changes. The final text of the Agreement, with the effective date, will be

published after the Agreement is approved by the Commission, and signed by the Chairman of the Commission and the Governor of Ohio.

(c) Ohio currently regulates the users of naturally-occurring and accelerator-produced radioactive materials. The regulatory program is authorized by law in Section 3748 of the Ohio Revised Code. Subsection 3748.03 provides the authority for the Governor to enter into an Agreement with the Commission.

Ohio law contains provisions for the orderly transfer of regulatory authority over affected licensees from NRC to the State. After the effective date of the Agreement, licenses issued by NRC would continue in effect as Ohio licenses until the licenses expire or are replaced by State issued licenses. NRC licenses transferred to Ohio which contain requirements for decommissioning and express an intent to terminate the license when decommissioning has been completed in accordance with a Commission approved decommissioning plan will continue as Ohio licenses and will be terminated by Ohio when the Commission approved decommissioning plan has been completed.

(d) As described below, the proposed Agreement will be signed only after the fulfillment of commitments by Ohio to hire, train, and qualify a sufficient number of professional/technical staff. Contingent on the fulfillment of these commitments, the NRC staff assessment finds that the Ohio program is adequate to protect public health and safety, and is compatible with the NRC program for the regulation of agreement materials.

## **II. Summary of the NRC Staff Assessment of the Ohio Program for the Control of Agreement Materials**

NRC staff has examined the Ohio request for an Agreement with respect to the ability of the radiation control program to regulate agreement materials. The examination was based on the Commission's policy statement "Criteria for Guidance of States and NRC in Discontinuance of NRC Regulatory Authority and Assumption Thereof by States Through Agreement" (referred to herein as the "NRC criteria") (46 FR 7540; January 23, 1981, as amended).

(a) *Organization and Personnel.* The agreement materials program will be located within the existing Bureau of Radiation Protection (Bureau) of the Ohio Department of Health. The program will be responsible for all regulatory activities related to the proposed Agreement.

The educational requirements for the Bureau staff members are specified in the Ohio State personnel position descriptions, and meet the NRC criteria with respect to formal education or combined education and experience requirements. All current staff members hold at least bachelor's degrees in physical or life sciences, or have a combination of education and experience at least equivalent to a bachelor's degree. Several staff members hold advanced degrees, and all staff members have had additional training plus working experience in radiation protection. Supervisory level staff have more than ten years working experience each in radiation protection. The Bureau chief has a bachelor's degree in physics and 15 years experience in regulatory health physics.

The Bureau currently has staff vacancies, which it is actively recruiting to fill. In response to NRC comments, the Bureau performed, and NRC staff reviewed, an analysis of the expected Bureau workload under the proposed Agreement. Based on the analysis, Ohio has made three commitments. First, the Bureau will employ a staff of at least 21 full-time professional/technical employees for the agreement materials program. Second, the distribution of the qualifications of the individual staff members will be balanced to the distribution of categories of licensees transferred from NRC. For example, there will be enough inspectors trained and qualified to inspect industrial radiography operations that the program will be able to inspect all of the industrial radiography licensees transferred from NRC without developing a backlog of overdue inspections. Third, each individual on the staff will be qualified in accordance with the Bureau's training and qualification procedure (including use of interim qualification) to function in the areas of responsibility to which the individual is assigned. In the case of individuals assigned to review radiation safety information on sealed sources or devices containing byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(1) of the Act, source, or special nuclear materials, this commitment includes assuring that the individuals will be able to:

- Understand and interpret, if necessary, appropriate prototype tests that ensure the integrity of the products under normal, and likely accidental, conditions of use,
- Understand and interpret test results,

- Read and understand blueprints and drawings,
- Understand how the device works and how safety features operate,
- Understand and apply appropriate regulations,
- Understand the conditions of use,
- Understand external dose rates, source activities, and nuclide chemical form, and
- Understand and utilize basic knowledge of engineering materials and their properties.

(b) *Legislation and Regulations.* The Ohio Department of Health is designated by law in Chapter 3748 of the Ohio Revised Code to be the radiation control agency. The law provides the Department the authority to issue licenses, issue orders, conduct inspections, and to enforce compliance with regulations, license conditions, and orders. Licensees are required to provide access to inspectors. The Public Health Council is authorized to promulgate regulations.

The law requires the Public Health Council to adopt rules that are compatible with the equivalent NRC regulations and that are equally stringent to, or to the extent practicable more stringent than, the equivalent NRC regulations. The Council has adopted, by reference, the NRC regulations in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations that were in effect on October 19, 1998. The adoption by reference is contained in Chapter 3701-39-021 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). The Board of Health has extended the effect of the rules, where appropriate, to apply to naturally occurring radioactive materials and to radioactive materials produced in particle accelerators, in addition to agreement materials.

Ohio rule 3701-39-021 (A) specifies that references to the NRC shall be construed as references to the Director of the Department of Health. It is noted, however, that Ohio has adopted most of the NRC regulations as entire Parts, including sections that address regulatory matters reserved to the Commission. Ohio has adopted a provision in Rule 3701-39-021 (A) excepting such sections from being construed as enforced by the Director of the Department of Health. The OAC also contains a provision to avoid interference with licensees when they are complying with regulatory requirements which the Act specifies NRC must enforce and when they are complying with NRC regulatory requirements from which the State licensees have not been exempted by the proposed Agreement. The NRC staff concludes that Ohio will not attempt to enforce the regulatory matters reserved to the Commission. In accordance with

NRC Management Directive 5.9, "Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs," this approach is considered compatible.

The NRC staff review verified that the Ohio rules contain all of the provisions that are necessary in order to be compatible with the regulations of the NRC on the effective date of the Agreement between the State and the Commission. The adoption of the NRC regulations by reference assures that the standards will be uniform.

The Ohio regulations are different from the NRC regulations with respect to the decommissioning of a licensed facility and the termination of the license. Current NRC regulations permit a license to be terminated when the facility has been decommissioned, i.e., cleaned of radioactive contamination, such that the residual radiation will not cause a total effective dose equivalent greater than 25 millirem per year to an average member of the group of individuals reasonably expected to receive the greatest exposure. Normally, the NRC regulations require that the 25 millirem dose constraint be met without imposing any restrictions regarding the future use of the land or buildings of the facility ("unrestricted release"). Under certain circumstances, NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E, allow a license to be terminated if the 25 millirem dose constraint is met with restrictions on the future use ("restricted release"). Ohio law does not allow a license to be terminated under restricted release. Ohio will instead issue special "decommissioning-possession only" licenses as an alternative to license termination under restricted release. The Commission has concluded that Ohio's approach, although different, is compatible.

(c) *Storage and Disposal.* Ohio has also adopted, by reference, the NRC requirements for the storage of radioactive material, and for the disposal of radioactive material as waste. The waste disposal requirements cover both the disposal of waste generated by the licensee and the disposal of waste generated by and received from other persons.

(d) *Transportation of Radioactive Material.* Ohio has adopted the NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 71 by reference. Part 71 contains the requirements licensees must follow when preparing packages containing radioactive material for transport. Part 71 also contains requirements related to the licensing of packaging for use in transporting radioactive materials. Ohio will not attempt to enforce portions of the regulations related to activities, such as

approving packaging designs, which are reserved to NRC.

(e) *Recordkeeping and Incident Reporting.* Ohio has adopted, by reference, the sections of the NRC regulations which specify requirements for licensees to keep records, and to report incidents or accidents involving materials.

(f) *Evaluation of License Applications.* Ohio has adopted, by reference, the NRC regulations that specify the requirements which a person must meet in order to get a license to possess or use radioactive materials. Ohio has also developed a licensing procedures manual, along with the accompanying regulatory guides, which are adapted from similar NRC documents and contain guidance for the program staff when evaluating license applications.

(g) *Inspections and Enforcement.* The Ohio radiation control program has adopted a schedule providing for the inspection of licensees as frequently as, or more frequently than, the inspection schedule used by NRC. The program has adopted procedures for the conduct of inspections, the reporting of inspection findings, and the report of inspection results to the licensees. The program has also adopted, by rule in the OAC, procedures for the enforcement of regulatory requirements.

(h) *Regulatory Administration.* The Ohio Department of Health is bound by requirements specified in State law for rulemaking, issuing licenses, and taking enforcement actions. The program has also adopted administrative procedures to assure fair and impartial treatment of license applicants. Ohio law prescribes standards of ethical conduct for State employees.

(i) *Cooperation with Other Agencies.* Ohio law deems the holder of an NRC license on the effective date of the proposed Agreement to possess a like license issued by Ohio. The law provides that these former NRC licenses will expire either 90 days after receipt from the radiation control program of a notice of expiration of such license or on the date of expiration specified in the NRC license, whichever is later. In the case of NRC licenses that are terminated under restricted conditions pursuant to 10 CFR 20.1403 prior to the effective date of the proposed Agreement, Ohio deems the termination to be final despite any other provisions of State law or rule. For NRC licenses that, on the effective date of the proposed Agreement,

contain a license condition indicating intent to terminate the license upon completion of a Commission approved decommissioning plan, the transferred license will be terminated by Ohio in accordance with the plan so long as the licensee conforms to the approved plan.

Ohio also provides for "timely renewal." This provision affords the continuance of licenses for which an application for renewal has been filed more than 30 days prior to the date of expiration of the license. NRC licenses transferred while in timely renewal are included under the continuation provision. The OAC provides exemptions from the State's requirements for licensing of sources of radiation for NRC and U.S. Department of Energy contractors or subcontractors.

The proposed Agreement commits Ohio to use its best efforts to cooperate with the NRC and the other Agreement States in the formulation of standards and regulatory programs for the protection against hazards of radiation and to assure that Ohio's program will continue to be compatible with the Commission's program for the regulation of agreement materials. The proposed Agreement stipulates the desirability of reciprocal recognition of licenses, and commits the Commission and Ohio to use their best efforts to accord such reciprocity.

### **III. Staff Conclusion**

Subsection 274d of the Act provides that the Commission shall enter into an agreement under subsection 274b with any State if:

(a) The Governor of the State certifies that the State has a program for the control of radiation hazards adequate to protect public health and safety with respect to the agreement materials within the State, and that the State desires to assume regulatory responsibility for the agreement materials; and

(b) The Commission finds that the State program is in accordance with the requirements of Subsection 274o, and in all other respects compatible with the Commission's program for the regulation of materials, and that the State program is adequate to protect public health and safety with respect to the materials covered by the proposed Agreement.

On the basis of its assessment, the NRC staff concludes that the State of Ohio meets the requirements of the Act, conditioned on completion of the commitments made in regard to the program staff. The State's program, as defined by its statutes, regulations, personnel, licensing, inspection, and administrative procedures, is compatible with the program of the Commission and adequate to protect public health and safety with respect to the materials covered by the proposed Agreement.

NRC will continue the formal processing of the proposed Agreement, however, the signing of the Agreement will be contingent upon the Bureau's completion of the staffing commitments.

#### **IV. Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act**

In accordance with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, the NRC has determined that this action is not a major rule and has verified this determination with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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Annette Vietti-Cook  
Secretary of the Commission



APPENDIX A  
PROPOSED AGREEMENT

AN AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
AND  
THE STATE OF OHIO  
FOR THE  
DISCONTINUANCE OF CERTAIN COMMISSION REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
AND RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE STATE PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 274 OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1954, AS AMENDED

*Whereas*, The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission) is authorized under Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the Act), to enter into agreements with the Governor of any State providing for discontinuance of the regulatory authority of the Commission within the State under Chapters 6, 7, and 8, and Section 161 of the Act with respect to byproduct materials as defined in Sections 11e.(1) and (2) of the Act, source materials, and special nuclear materials in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass; and,

*Whereas*, The Governor of the State of Ohio is authorized under Chapter 3748. of the Ohio Revised Code to enter into this Agreement with the Commission; and,

*Whereas*, The Governor of the State of Ohio certified on June 22, 1998, that the State of Ohio (hereinafter referred to as the State) has a program for the control of radiation hazards adequate to protect the health and safety of the public and to protect the environment with

respect to the materials within the State covered by this Agreement, and that the State desires to assume regulatory responsibility for such materials; and,

*Whereas*, The Commission found on (date to be determined) that the program of the State for the regulation of the materials covered by this Agreement is compatible with the Commission's program for the regulation of such materials and is adequate to protect public health and safety; and,

*Whereas*, The State and the Commission recognize the desirability and importance of cooperation between the Commission and the State in the formulation of standards for protection against hazards of radiation and in assuring that State and Commission programs for protection against hazards of radiation will be coordinated and compatible; and,

*Whereas*, The Commission and the State recognize the desirability of reciprocal recognition of licenses, and of the granting of limited exemptions from licensing of those materials subject to this Agreement; and,

*Whereas*, This Agreement is entered into pursuant to the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended;

*Now Therefore*, It is hereby agreed between the Commission and the Governor of the State of Ohio, acting in behalf of the State, as follows:

*Article I*

Subject to the exceptions provided in Articles II, IV, and V, the Commission shall discontinue, as of the effective date of this Agreement, the regulatory authority of the Commission in the State under Chapters 6, 7, and 8, and Section 161 of the Act with respect to the following materials:

- a. Byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(1) of the Act;
- b. Byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Act;
- c. Source materials;
- d. Special nuclear materials in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass;
- e. The regulation of the land disposal of byproduct, source, or special nuclear waste materials received from other persons; and,
- f. The evaluation of radiation safety information on sealed sources or devices containing byproduct, source, or special nuclear materials and the registration of the sealed sources or devices for distribution, as provided for in regulations or orders of the Commission.

*Article II*

- A. This Agreement does not provide for discontinuance of any authority and the

Commission shall retain authority and responsibility with respect to:

1. The regulation of the construction and operation of any production or utilization facility or any uranium enrichment facility;
2. The regulation of the export from or import into the United States of byproduct, source, or special nuclear material, or of any production or utilization facility;
3. The regulation of the disposal into the ocean or sea of byproduct, source, or special nuclear waste materials as defined in the regulations or orders of the Commission;
4. The regulation of the disposal of such other byproduct, source, or special nuclear material as the Commission from time to time determines by regulation or order should, because of the hazards or potential hazards thereof, not be so disposed without a license from the Commission.

B. Notwithstanding this Agreement, the Commission retains the following authorities pertaining to byproduct material as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Atomic Energy Act:

1. Prior to the termination of a State license for such byproduct material, or for any activity that results in the production of such material, the Commission shall have made a determination that all applicable standards and requirements pertaining to such material have been met.

2. The Commission reserves the authority to establish minimum standards governing reclamation, long-term surveillance or maintenance, and ownership of such byproduct material and of land used as a disposal site for such material.

Such reserved authority includes:

- a. The authority to establish terms and conditions as the Commission determines necessary to assure that, prior to termination of any license for such byproduct material, or for any activity that results in the production of such material, the licensee shall comply with decontamination, decommissioning, and reclamation standards prescribed by the Commission; and with ownership requirements for such materials and its disposal site;
- b. The authority to require that prior to termination of any license for such byproduct material or for any activity that results in the production of such material, title to such byproduct material and its disposal site be transferred to the United States or the State at the option of the State (provided such option is exercised prior to termination of the license);
- c. The authority to permit use of the surface or subsurface estates, or both, of the land transferred to the United States or a State pursuant to paragraph 2.b. in this section in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978, provided that

the Commission determines that such use would not endanger public health, safety, welfare, or the environment;

- d. The authority to require, in the case of a license, if any, for any activity that produces such byproduct material (which license was in effect on November 8, 1981), transfer of land and material pursuant to paragraph 2.b. in this section taking into consideration the status of such material and land and interests therein, and the ability of the licensee to transfer title and custody thereof to the United States or the State;
- e. The authority to require the Secretary of the Department of Energy, other Federal agency, or State, whichever has custody of such byproduct material and its disposal site, to undertake such monitoring, maintenance, and emergency measures as are necessary to protect public health and safety, and other actions as the Commission deems necessary; and
- f. The authority to enter into arrangements as may be appropriate to assure Federal long-term surveillance or maintenance of such byproduct material and its disposal site on land held in trust by the United States for any Indian Tribe or land owned by an Indian Tribe and subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States.

### *Article III*

Notwithstanding this Agreement, the Commission may from time to time by rule, regulation, or order, require that the manufacturer, processor, or producer of any equipment, device, commodity, or other product containing source, byproduct, or special nuclear material shall not transfer possession or control of such product except pursuant to a license or an exemption from licensing issued by the Commission.

### *Article IV*

This Agreement shall not affect the authority of the Commission under Subsection 161b or 161i of the Act to issue rules, regulations, or orders to protect the common defense and security, to protect restricted data or to guard against the loss or diversion of special nuclear material.

### *Article V*

The Commission will cooperate with the State and other Agreement States in the formulation of standards and regulatory programs of the State and the Commission for protection against hazards of radiation and to assure that State and Commission programs for protection against hazards of radiation will be coordinated and compatible. The State agrees to cooperate with the Commission and other Agreement States in the formulation of standards and regulatory programs of the State and the Commission for protection against hazards of radiation and to assure that the State's program will continue to be compatible with the program of the Commission for the regulation of materials covered by this Agreement.



The State and the Commission agree to keep each other informed of proposed changes in their respective rules and regulations, and to provide each other the opportunity for early and substantive contribution to the proposed changes.

The State and the Commission agree to keep each other informed of events, accidents, and licensee performance that may have generic implication or otherwise be of regulatory interest.

#### *Article VI*

The Commission and the State agree that it is desirable to provide reciprocal recognition of licenses for the materials listed in Article I licensed by the other party or by any other Agreement State. Accordingly, the Commission and the State agree to develop appropriate rules, regulations, and procedures by which such reciprocity will be accorded.

#### *Article VII*

The Commission, upon its own initiative after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing to the State, or upon request of the Governor of the State, may terminate or suspend all or part of this Agreement and reassert the licensing and regulatory authority vested in it under the Act if the Commission finds that (1) such termination or suspension is required to protect public health and safety, or (2) the State has not complied with one or more of the requirements of Section 274 of the Act. The Commission may also, pursuant to Section 274j of the Act, temporarily suspend all or part of this Agreement if, in the judgement of the Commission, an emergency situation exists requiring immediate action to protect public health and safety and the State has failed to take necessary steps. The Commission shall periodically review actions

taken by the State under this Agreement to ensure compliance with Section 274 of the Act which requires a State program to be adequate to protect public health and safety with respect to the materials covered by this Agreement and to be compatible with the Commission's program.

#### *Article VIII*

In the licensing and regulation of byproduct material as defined in Section 11e.(2) of the Act, or of any activity which results in production of such material, the State shall comply with the provisions of Section 274o of the Act. If in such licensing and regulation, the State requires financial surety arrangements for reclamation or long-term surveillance and maintenance of such material,

- A. The total amount of funds the State collects for such purposes shall be transferred to the United States if custody of such material and its disposal site is transferred to the United States upon termination of the State license for such material or any activity which results in the production of such material. Such funds include, but are not limited to, sums collected for long-term surveillance or maintenance. Such funds do not, however, include monies held as surety where no default has occurred and the reclamation or other bonded activity has been performed; and
- B. Such surety or other financial requirements must be sufficient to ensure compliance with those standards established by the Commission pertaining to bonds, sureties, and financial arrangements to ensure adequate reclamation and long-term management of such byproduct material and its disposal site.

*Article IX*

This Agreement shall become effective on July 22, 1999, and shall remain in effect unless and until such time as it is terminated pursuant to Article VIII.

Done at Columbus, Ohio this (date to be determined).

FOR THE UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

\_\_\_\_\_, Chairman

FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

\_\_\_\_\_, Governor

ATTACHMENT 4



## ASSESSMENT

of the proposed

### **OHIO PROGRAM FOR THE REGULATION OF AGREEMENT MATERIALS**<sup>2</sup>

as described in the

#### **Request for an Agreement**

This assessment, prepared by NRC staff, examines the proposed radiation control program of the State of Ohio with respect to the ability of the program to regulate the possession, use, and disposal of radioactive materials subject to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (Act), as amended. The assessment was performed against the criteria set forth in the Commission's policy statement "Criteria for Guidance of States and NRC in Discontinuance of NRC Regulatory Authority and Assumption Thereof by States Through Agreement" (referred to below as the "criteria")<sup>3</sup> using an internal procedure developed by the Office of State Programs. Each criterion, and the NRC staff's assessment related thereto, is addressed separately below.

#### OBJECTIVES

1. **Protection. A State regulatory program shall be designed to protect the health and safety of the people against radiation hazards.**

The proposed Ohio program for regulating Agreement materials would be located within the existing Bureau of Radiation Protection, an organizational unit of the Ohio Department of Health. The Bureau's Nuclear Material Safety Section currently has responsibility for licensing and inspection of radioactive materials that occur naturally or are produced by particle accelerators. Under the proposed Agreement, the section would also be given primary responsibility for licensing and inspection of the byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials. Responsibility for the regulation of machine produced radiation, and non-ionizing radiation, is set in another bureau of the Department of Health.

Support to the Nuclear Material Safety Section would be provided by other Bureau of Radiation Protection sections for responding to incidents and emergencies, the decommissioning of licensed sites and facilities, the management of low-level radioactive waste, and the laboratory analysis of radioactive material samples.

The authority to issue, suspend, or revoke licenses, and to issue orders or assess administrative fines is vested by law in the Director of the Department of Health.

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<sup>2</sup>Agreement materials are those radioactive materials covered by the Act over which regulatory authority may be transferred to a State under the provisions of section 274.

<sup>3</sup>NRC Statement of Policy published in the Federal Register January 23, 1981 (46 FR 7540-7546), a correction was published July 16, 1981 (46 FR 36969) and a revision of Criterion 9 published in the Federal Register July 21, 1983 (48 FR 33376).

The NRC staff review verified that the Ohio program design for distributing regulatory responsibilities to the program staff is similar to designs used successfully in other Agreement States, and that all necessary program elements have been addressed. The staff concludes that the design of the proposed Ohio program for Agreement materials satisfies the criterion.

References: *Program Narrative Description*, and *Organizational Charts of the Bureau of Radiation Protection*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

## RADIATION PROTECTION STANDARDS

2. **Standards. The State regulatory program shall adopt a set of standards for protection against radiation which shall apply to byproduct, source and special nuclear materials in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass.**

The authority to promulgate rules<sup>4</sup> for the control of exposure to sources of radiation is vested in the Public Health Council of the Ohio Department of Health by Section 3748.04 of the Ohio Revised Code. The NRC staff review verified that the Council has adopted, by reference, the NRC regulations in 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 40, 61, 70, 71, and 150 that were in effect as of October 19, 1998, into Chapter 3701-39 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Ohio rules have the same applicability as the NRC regulations to materials covered by the Agreement, except that the Ohio rules apply in addition to naturally occurring and accelerator produced radioactive materials.

Ohio rule 3701-39-021 (A) adopts the NRC regulations, and specifies that references to the NRC shall be construed as references to the Director of the Department of Health. It is noted, however, that Ohio has adopted the NRC regulations as entire Parts, including sections that address regulatory matters reserved to the Commission. Ohio has adopted a provision in Rule 3701-39-021 (A) excepting such sections from being construed as references to the Director of the Department of Health. The NRC staff concludes that Ohio will not attempt to enforce the regulatory matters reserved to the Commission. In accordance with NRC Management Directive 5.9, this approach is considered compatible.

The NRC staff concludes that the adoption by Ohio of the NRC regulations by reference satisfies the criterion.

References: Ohio Revised Code, Section 3748.04; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

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<sup>4</sup>Ohio uses only the term "rules" while NRC uses both "rules" and "regulations." For the purposes of this analysis, the terms "rule" and "regulation" are presumed to be interchangeable.

3. Uniformity in Radiation Standards. **It is important to strive for uniformity in technical definitions and terminology, particularly as related to such things as units of measurement and radiation dose. There shall be uniformity on maximum permissible doses and levels of radiation and concentrations of radioactivity, as fixed by 10 CFR Part 20 of the NRC regulations based on officially approved radiation protection guides.**

Ohio law requires the Public Health Council to adopt rules that are compatible with the equivalent NRC regulations and that are equally stringent to, or to the extent practicable more stringent than, the equivalent NRC regulations. The Council has adopted the NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 20 that were in effect on October 19, 1998, by reference.

The NRC staff review verified that the resultant Ohio rules contain all of the provisions that are necessary in order to be compatible with the regulations of the NRC on the effective date of the Agreement between the State and the Commission. The adoption by reference assures the uniformity of the standards.

The NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Ohio Revised Code Section 3748.04; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

4. Total Occupational Radiation Exposure. **The regulatory authority shall consider the total occupational radiation exposure of individuals, including that from sources which are not regulated by it.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted the NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 20 by reference, including Subpart C, the occupational dose limits, and Subpart D, the dose limits for individual members of the public. Ohio licensees are required to consider the radiation doses to individuals from all sources of radiation, except background radiation and radiation from medical administrations. As in the case of NRC licensees, Ohio licensees are required to consider the radiation dose whether the sources are in the possession of the licensee or not.

The NRC staff concludes that the requirements of the criterion are satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

5. Surveys, Monitoring. **Appropriate surveys and personnel monitoring under the close supervision of technically competent people are essential in achieving radiological protection and shall be made in determining compliance with safety regulations.**

NRC requires surveys and monitoring pursuant to Subpart F of 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted Subpart F by reference. Ohio licensees thus would be required to conduct surveys and personnel monitoring to the same standards as is required of NRC licensees.



The NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

6. Labels, Signs, Symbols. **It is desirable to achieve uniformity in labels, signs, and symbols, and the posting thereof. However, it is essential that there be uniformity in labels, signs, and symbols affixed to radioactive products which are transferred from person to person.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted the NRC regulations in Subpart J of 10 CFR Part 20 by reference. The radiation labels, signs and symbols, and the posting and labeling requirements in the Ohio rules thus are identical to those contained in the NRC regulations.

The NRC staff concludes that the required degree of regulatory uniformity is provided and this criterion is satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

7. Instruction. **Persons working in or frequenting restricted areas shall be instructed with respect to the health risks associated with exposure to radioactive materials and in precautions to minimize exposure. Workers shall have the right to request regulatory authority inspections as per 10 CFR 19, Section 19.16 and to be represented during inspections as specified in Section 19.14 of 10 CFR 19.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted the NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 19 by reference, and the NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

It is noted that the NRC regulations and definitions in 10 CFR Parts 19 and 20 have been amended since the Commission adopted the criteria. In particular, 10 CFR 19.12 was amended effective August 14, 1995 (60 FR 36038; July 13, 1995). Criterion number seven reflects, in part, the pre-amendment rule. In performing the review, NRC staff has considered the amended statement of the rule, which requires instruction to be provided to all individuals who, in the course of their employment, are likely to receive an occupational dose in excess of 100 millirem in one year, whether the dose is received in a restricted area or not. Since Ohio has adopted the current 10 CFR 19.12 by reference, the Ohio rule is compatible with the current NRC rule.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

8. Storage. **Licensed radioactive material in storage shall be secured against unauthorized removal.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that Ohio has adopted Subpart I of 10 CFR Part 20 by reference. The NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

9. Radioactive Waste Disposal. **(a) Waste disposal by material users. The standards for the disposal of radioactive materials into the air, water and sewer, and burial in the soil shall be in accordance with 10 CFR Part 20. Holders of radioactive material desiring to release or dispose of quantities or concentrations of radioactive materials in excess of prescribed limits shall be required to obtain special permission from the appropriate regulatory authority.**

**Requirements for transfer of waste for the purpose of ultimate disposal at a land disposal facility (waste transfer and manifest system) shall be in accordance with 10 CFR 20. The waste disposal standards shall include a waste classification scheme and provisions for waste form, applicable to waste generators, that is equivalent to that contained in 10 CFR Part 61.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that Ohio has adopted Subpart J of 10 CFR Part 20 and Part 61 effective on October 19, 1998, by reference. The Ohio rules would thus impose the same waste disposal requirements, including waste classification and waste manifests, as the current NRC regulations. NRC staff concludes that criterion 9(a) is satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

**(b) Land Disposal of waste received from other persons. The State shall promulgate regulations containing licensing requirements for land disposal of radioactive waste received from other persons which are compatible with the applicable technical definitions, performance objectives, technical requirements and applicable supporting sections set forth in 10 CFR Part 61. Adequate financial arrangements (under terms established by regulation) shall be required of each waste disposal site licensee to ensure sufficient funds for decontamination, closure and stabilization of a disposal site. In addition, Agreement State financial arrangements for long-term monitoring and maintenance of a specific site must be reviewed and approved by the Commission prior to relieving the site operator of licensed responsibility (Section 151(a)(2), Pub. L. 97-425).**

Ohio has requested authority under the proposed Agreement to regulate the disposal of low-level radioactive waste received from other persons at a land disposal site. The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted rules equivalent to the regulations in 10 CFR Part 61 by reference.

The review disclosed that Ohio law specifies, in Revised Code Section 3747.07, the technology to be utilized for waste disposal at any land disposal site located in Ohio. Another agency of the State, the Ohio Low-level Radioactive Waste Facility Development Authority, is designated by law to be the owner of the site. The Authority would select an operator for the site who would be the site licensee during operations, and during the institutional control period after closure of the site. At the end of the institutional control period, the operator would transfer the site license to the Authority.

NRC staff concludes that the provisions of Ohio law and rules related to the

management of low-level radioactive waste would provide the same protection as is provided by the NRC requirements, and that the proposed Ohio program for the management of low-level radioactive waste received from other persons at a land disposal site would be compatible with the program of the Commission.

References: Ohio Revised Code - Title 37 Chapter 47 and Title 37 Chapter 48; rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

10. Regulations Governing Shipment of Radioactive Materials. **The State shall, to the extent of its jurisdiction, promulgate regulations applicable to the shipment of radioactive materials, such regulations to be compatible with those established by the U.S. Department of Transportation and other agencies of the United States whose jurisdiction over interstate shipment of such materials necessarily continues. State regulations regarding transportation of radioactive materials must be compatible with 10 CFR Part 71.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR Part 71 by reference. Staff notes that Part 71 also contains requirements related to the licensing of packaging for use in transporting radioactive materials. As discussed in criterion 2, Ohio would not attempt to enforce portions of the regulations related to activities, such as approving packaging designs, which are reserved to NRC. Based on these considerations, the NRC staff concludes that criterion 10 is satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

11. Records and Reports. **The State regulatory program shall require that holders and users of radioactive materials (a) maintain records covering personnel radiation exposures, radiation surveys, and disposals of materials; (b) keep records of the receipt and transfer of the materials; (c) report significant incidents involving the materials, as prescribed by the regulatory authority; (d) make available upon request of a former employee a report of the employee's exposure to radiation; (e) at request of an employee advise the employee of his or her annual radiation exposure; and (f) inform each employee in writing when the employee has received radiation exposure in excess of the prescribed limits.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR Parts 19, 20, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 39, 40, 61, 70, 71, and 150 by reference. The records and reports referenced in criterion 11 are regulatory requirements of these Parts. NRC staff concludes that by adopting the regulations, Ohio has adopted the requirements, and criterion 11 is satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

12. Additional Requirements and Exemptions. **Consistent with the overall criteria here enumerated and to accommodate special cases and circumstances, the State regulatory authority shall be authorized in individual cases to impose additional requirements to protect health and safety, or to grant necessary exemptions which will not jeopardize health and safety.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that Ohio State law provides the radiation control program authority to impose, by order or license condition, additional health and safety requirements beyond the requirements specified in law and the rules. The program also has the legal authority to grant reasonable and necessary exceptions to the regulatory requirements, either by order or license condition. Ohio has adopted 10 CFR 30.34, *Terms and conditions of licenses*, by reference.

NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Ohio Revised Code - Title 37 Chapter 48; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

#### PRIOR EVALUATION OF USES OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

13. Prior Evaluation of Hazards and Uses, Exceptions. **In the present state of knowledge, it is necessary in regulating the possession and use of byproduct, source and special nuclear materials that the State regulatory authority require the submission of information on, and evaluation of, the potential hazards, and the capability of the user or possessor prior to his receipt of the materials. This criterion is subject to certain exceptions and to continuing reappraisal as knowledge and experience in the atomic energy field increase. Frequently there are, and increasingly in the future there may be, categories of materials and uses as to which there is sufficient knowledge to permit possession and use without prior evaluation of the hazards and the capability of the possessor and user. These categories fall into two groups -- those materials and uses which may be completely exempt from regulatory controls, and those materials and uses in which sanctions for misuse are maintained without pre-evaluation of the individual possession or use. In authorizing research and development or other activities involving multiple uses of radioactive materials, where an institution has people with extensive training and experience, the State regulatory authority may wish to provide a means for authorizing broad use of materials without evaluating each specific use.**

Since Ohio has adopted the current NRC regulations by reference, the Ohio regulatory requirements for issuing a license would be the same as those of NRC. The NRC staff review confirmed that the Bureau of Radiation Protection has procedures for the processing of applications for licensing. The procedures specify the actions to be accomplished, identify (by position) the staff responsible for accomplishing the actions, and identify resources such as forms and guides to be used. The procedures cover the processing actions from the response to the first contact by the applicant, to the delivery of the signed license. The procedures include a mechanism for tracking the overall progress of an application, and a docket numbering system to identify documents associated with the application. Staff concludes that the procedures provide reasonable

confidence that the regulatory requirements would be met, or, where appropriate, exceptions granted.

The NRC staff review verified that the Ohio rules provide that a license authorizing the distribution of agreement materials that will subsequently be exempt from regulatory control may be issued only by the NRC.

Since criterion nine was adopted, the Commission has determined that the regulatory authority to conduct safety evaluations of sealed sources and devices may be retained by the NRC, unless the State requests assumption of the authority and has in place an adequate and compatible program to implement the authority. Ohio has requested the authority to conduct safety evaluations of sealed sources and devices.

NRC staff evaluated the Ohio rules, policies and procedures related to the sealed source and device safety evaluation program element, and determined that the program would be adequate and compatible.

The NRC staff concludes that the Ohio program meets the requirements of criterion 13.

References: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code; *Ohio Program for the Licensing of Radioactive Materials*, and the *Ohio Sealed Source and Device Review and Registration Program*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

14. **Evaluation Criteria. In evaluating a proposal to use radioactive materials, the regulatory authority shall determine the adequacy of the applicant's facilities and safety equipment, his training and experience in the use of the materials for the purpose requested, and his proposed administrative controls. States should develop guidance documents for use by license applicants. This guidance should be consistent with NRC licensing and regulatory guides for various categories of licensed activities.**

The NRC staff review determined that the Ohio licensing procedures manual addresses the specific elements listed in the criterion. The Ohio licensing procedures are similar to NRC licensing procedures. The Ohio guidance for licensees and applicants is based on the regulatory guidance that NRC uses.

NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

Reference: *Ohio Program for the Licensing of Radioactive Materials*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

15. **Human Use. The use of radioactive materials and radiation on or in humans shall not be permitted except by properly qualified persons (normally licensed physicians) possessing prescribed minimum experience in the use of radioisotopes or radiation.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR Part 35 by

reference. The NRC training and experience requirements for persons to be licensed for the use of agreement materials on or in humans is specified in Part 35. NRC staff concludes that Ohio rules specify the same requirements.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

## INSPECTION

16. Purpose, Frequency. **The possession and use of radioactive materials shall be subject to inspection by the regulatory authority and shall be subject to the performance of tests, as required by the regulatory authority. Inspection and testing is conducted to determine and to assist in obtaining compliance with regulatory requirements. Frequency of inspection shall be related directly to the amount and kind of material and type of operation licensed, and it shall be adequate to insure compliance.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that the Ohio program has statutory authority to conduct inspections of licensees. Ohio has adopted 10 CFR Part 30, containing provisions relating to inspections and tests, by reference.

The program has also adopted a schedule for the inspection of licensees at least as frequently as the schedule used by NRC. The procedures also cover the conduct of inspections, and specify the actions to be accomplished and identify (by position) the staff responsible for accomplishing the actions. The scheduling procedures address prioritizing licences due for inspection and provide flexibility for the optimization of inspection related travel. These provisions are similar to those in NRC procedures.

The NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code; and the *Inspection Program for Radioactive Materials*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

17. Inspections Compulsory. **Licensees shall be under obligation by law to provide access to inspectors.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that Ohio law provides authority for Ohio radiation control program inspectors to enter public or private property at all reasonable times, for the purpose of determining compliance with the law and rules.

Reference: Ohio Revised Code section 3748.13.

18. Notification of Results of Inspection. **Licensees are entitled to be advised of the results of inspections and to notice as to whether or not they are in compliance.**

The NRC staff review determined that Ohio has adopted procedures to convey a copy of the formal inspection report to the licensees, both when violations are found, and when no violations are found. The procedures identify (by position) the staff responsible and specify the time limit for preparing the inspection report, the process for management review and approval, and provide instructions for distribution of the report to the licensee and to the State's official files.

The NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

Reference: Ohio *Inspection Program for Radioactive Materials*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

## ENFORCEMENT

19. **Enforcement. Possession and use of radioactive materials should be amenable to enforcement through legal sanctions, and the regulatory authority shall be equipped or assisted by law with the necessary powers for prompt enforcement. This may include, as appropriate, administrative remedies looking toward issuance of orders requiring affirmative action or suspension or revocation of the right to possess and use materials, and the impounding of materials; the obtaining of injunctive relief; and the imposing of civil or criminal penalties.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that the Ohio program is authorized by law to enforce the State rules using a variety of sanctions, including the imposition of administrative fines and the issuing of orders to suspend, modify or revoke licenses, or to impound materials. The program may seek restraining orders, civil penalties, and criminal sanctions with the assistance of the attorney general.

The program has adopted a policy and procedures to implement the enforcement authority. The Ohio enforcement procedures are similar to the NRC enforcement procedures with respect to classifying the severity of violations.

The NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3748; and the *General Statement of Policy Enforcement Actions*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

## PERSONNEL

20. **Qualifications of Regulatory and Inspection Personnel. The regulatory agency shall be staffed with sufficient trained personnel. Prior evaluation of applications for licenses or authorizations and inspection of licensees must be conducted by persons possessing the training and experience relevant to the type and level of radioactivity in the proposed use to be evaluated and inspected. This requires competency to evaluate various potential radiological hazards associated with the many uses of radioactive material and includes concentrations of radioactive**

materials in air and water, conditions of shielding, the making of radiation measurements, knowledge of radiation instruments--their selection, use and calibration--laboratory design, contamination control, other general principles and practices of radiation protection, and use of management controls in assuring adherence to safety procedures. In order to evaluate some complex cases, the State regulatory staff may need to be supplemented by consultants or other State agencies with expertise in geology, hydrology, water quality, radiobiology and engineering disciplines.

To perform the functions involved in evaluation and inspection, it is desirable that there be personnel educated and trained in the physical and/or life sciences, including biology, chemistry, physics and engineering, and that the personnel have had training and experience in radiation protection. For example, the person who will be responsible for the actual performance of evaluation and inspection of all of the various uses of byproduct, source and special nuclear material which might come to the regulatory body should have substantial training and extensive experience in the field of radiation protection. It is desirable that such a person have a bachelor's degree or equivalent in the physical or life sciences, and specific training - radiation protection.

It is recognized that there will also be persons in the program performing a more limited function in evaluation and inspection. These persons will perform the day-to-day work of the regulatory program and deal with both routine situations as well as some which will be out of the ordinary. These people should have a bachelor's degree or equivalent in the physical or life sciences, training in health physics, and approximately two years of actual work experience in the field of radiation protection.

The foregoing are considered desirable qualifications for the staff who will be responsible for the actual performance of evaluation and inspection. In addition, there will probably be trainees associated with the regulatory program who will have an academic background in the physical or life sciences as well as varying amounts of specific training in radiation protection but little or no actual work experience in this field. The background and specific training of these persons will indicate to some extent their potential role in the regulatory program. These trainees, of course, could be used initially to evaluate and inspect those applications of radioactive materials which are considered routine or more standardized from the radiation safety standpoint, for example, inspection of industrial gauges, small research programs, and diagnostic medical programs. As they gain experience and competence in the field, the trainees could be used progressively to deal with the more complex or difficult types of radioactive material applications. It is desirable that such trainees have a bachelor's degree or equivalent in the physical or life sciences and specific training in radiation protection. In determining the requirement for academic training of individuals in all of the foregoing categories, proper consideration should be given to equivalent competency which has been gained by appropriate technical and radiation protection experience.



**It is recognized that radioactive materials and their uses are so varied that the evaluation and inspection functions will require skills and experience in the different disciplines which will not always reside in one person. The regulatory authority should have the composite of such skills either in its employ or at its command, not only for routine functions, but also for emergency cases.**

The NRC staff review of the organizational charts and position descriptions for the Ohio program, and the curricula vitae for the current program staff members, disclosed that the Bureau has a staffing plan that would provide a sufficient number of adequately trained technical staff. The Bureau currently has staff vacancies which must be filled before the Agreement can be signed. NRC staff requires that in order for a position to be considered "filled," the incumbent must be trained and qualified in accordance with the Ohio training and qualification plan for the duties assigned.

1. Assessment of the Agreement Materials Staffing Plan

There are approximately 600 NRC licenses in Ohio, of which NRC staff estimates about 550 would be transferred to Ohio under the proposed Agreement. These would be added to the approximately 170 NARM registrations that the Bureau currently is converting to licenses. Based on past experience in new Agreement States, NRC staff estimates that about 80% of the Ohio NARM licensees also hold NRC materials licenses. Thus, NRC staff estimates that the Bureau would have the equivalent of about 600 specific licenses in effect under the Agreement.

The Bureau organization chart shows a total of 41 staff positions, 24 of which are professional/technical positions that would be associated with the Agreement materials program. The program would have three sections: Nuclear Materials, Decommissioning, and Technical services. Ohio determined that a minimum staff of 21 professional/-technical members would be needed to operate the program when the Agreement becomes effective. The three additional staff positions shown on the chart are needed to cover an increase in licensing workload which the Bureau anticipates after the first year. NRC staff reviewed the analysis and concurs.

The Nuclear Material Safety Section, which has responsibility for licensing and inspection, has 12 staff positions and three supervisors. NRC staff estimates, based on the experience of other Agreement States, that approximately 50% of the supervisors' time would be available for technical licensing and inspection activities. NRC staff credits the Nuclear Material Safety Section with effectively 13.5 FTE of professional/technical staff.

There is no current quantitative guideline in this area, however, NRC previously used a guideline indicator of 1.0 to 1.5 FTE per 100 licenses when reviewing existing Agreement State programs. Using 13.5 technical/professional FTE in the Nuclear Material Safety Section, and the NRC estimate of 600 licenses, there would be approximately 2.25 technical/professional FTE per 100 licenses. While this number may appear high, NRC staff notes that the Bureau would regulate several large licensees,

including major universities with large research programs and manufacturers of sealed sources and devices.

Both the Decommissioning section and the Technical Services section will provide support to the Nuclear Materials section. The Decommissioning section will handle licensing and inspection activities related to the decommissioning of licensed sites. This work would otherwise be handled by the Nuclear Materials section. Ohio's staffing analysis demonstrated that the number of staff in the Decommissioning section would be adequate for the work assigned to them.

Ohio would have a sealed source and device (SS&D) safety evaluation program element regulating 13 active manufacturers. Responsibility for this program element would be located in the Technical Services section, with support from the other Bureau sections. Contractor assistance, if required, would be obtained. Ohio's staffing analysis demonstrated that the number of staff in the Technical Services sections would be adequate for the work assigned to them.

NRC staff notes that, in the future, the Bureau may license and regulate a low-level radioactive waste disposal site. Neither the Bureau nor NRC expect an application for a waste disposal site license in the near future. Further, when an application is received, the Bureau plans to add staff and to supplement the Bureau staff with contractors.

Based on the above, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed Ohio Agreement materials program staffing plan would provide an adequate number of personnel to meet the anticipated program needs. However, three staff positions, one in each section, are vacant. Ohio has committed to fill the positions before the Agreement is signed.

## 2. Assessment of Staff Qualifications

The NRC staff review considered the qualifications of the individuals currently on the Bureau professional/technical staff that would be involved in the Agreement materials program, and the Bureau's procedures for training and qualifying new staff members.

Under the proposed Agreement, the chief of the Bureau would be the Agreement materials program director, and would be primarily involved with the program's administration. NRC staff estimates that only about five percent of the chief's effort would be on technical issues. The Bureau chief holds a master's degree in public health, and is a registered sanitarian. He has been with the Department of Health since 1970, and has been chief of the Bureau since 1995. From 1987 to 1995 he was the chief of the former Division of Environmental Health, which included the former Bureau of Radiological Health.

The immediate day-to-day supervision of the Agreement materials program would be provided by five supervisors: the supervisor of Medical Licensing and Inspection, the

supervisor of non-Medical Licensing and Inspection, the Nuclear Materials Safety Section Program Administrator, the Technical Services Section Manager, and the Decommissioning Section Supervisor. The Licensing and Inspection supervisors report to the Program Administrator, who reports to the Bureau Chief. The Technical Services Section Manager, and the Decommissioning Section Supervisor, also report to the Bureau Chief.

The Technical Services Manager holds a bachelors degree in physics and has 16 years experience in state radiation control programs. He has been the section manager since the 1995 reorganization. From 1989 to 1995 he was the Chief of the former Bureau of Radiological Health. Prior to 1989 he served as a health physicist with the US Army, and the States of Florida and South Carolina.

The Nuclear Materials Safety Section Program Administrator holds a bachelors degree in biology and has 19 years experience in state radiation control programs. She has been the program administrator since 1996. From 1993 to 1996 she was the Supervisor of Radioactive Materials starting in the former Bureau of Radiological Health. She also has 14 years experience in radiation control programs in Indiana and Illinois.

The Decommissioning Section Supervisor holds a bachelors degree in biology and has four years experience in the Ohio radiation control program. She also has 14 years experience in industry as a health physicist.

The Supervisor of the Medical Licensing and Inspection group holds a bachelors degree in Environmental management. He is a registered Radiation Protection Technologist with 14 experience as a health physicist in medical, nuclear reactor, and as a health physics instructor in US Army training programs.

The Supervisor of non-Medical Licensing and Inspection group holds a bachelors degree in Applied Science and Technology, Radiation Protection Specialization. He is a registered Radiation Protection Technologist with 2 years experience as a health physicist in the Bureau, and 12 years experience as a health physics technologist in the US Navy and in industry.

The non-supervisory staff members are all trained in physics, health physics, Nuclear Science, or Nuclear Engineering; or in life sciences including radiologic technology, biophysics, microbiology, and public health. Two staff members have more than five years experience in the state radiation control programs, four members have between two and five years experience and eight have less than two years. Six of the staff have 10 years or more total experience in health physics, radiation protection, or use of radiation and radioactive materials, and six others have between five and 10 years.

All non-supervisory staff members have at least a bachelors degree or equivalent, one holds a Ph.D., and three hold masters degrees. One staff member has been trained in both radiologic technology and nuclear medicine technology non-degree programs, plus has nine years working experience.

The Agreement materials program staff members have also completed NRC specialty training courses provided for NRC and Agreement State regulatory personnel. Various staff members have completed training courses related to materials facilities licensing procedures, materials facilities inspection procedures, safety requirements for industrial radiography, safety requirements for medical uses of radioactive materials, sealed source and device safety evaluation, safety requirements for transportation of radioactive material, safety requirements for well-logging, and safety requirements for medical teletherapy. In addition, program staff have accompanied NRC inspectors and worked with NRC licensing staff to obtain additional on-the-job experience.

The Bureau has adopted a written procedure for the training and qualification of staff members, which covers both new staff members and the continuing qualification of existing staff. It does not cover supervisors, who must meet criteria in the State's position descriptions.

Criterion 20 contains no specific elements to address training and qualification procedures. However, NRC staff notes that the Ohio agreement materials program will be evaluated under the Commission's Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP). One IMPEP criterion addresses staff training and qualifications, and an element of the IMPEP criterion addresses training and qualification. NRC staff reviewed the Ohio plan, and concludes that it satisfies the IMPEP criterion element.

The Bureau procedure provides for interim qualification and full qualification. Interim qualification consists of qualifying the individual to perform the duties to which the individual is assigned (i.e., inspect medical facilities). Full qualification consists of qualifying the individual to perform any of the duties in the program (i.e., inspect any licensed facility).

The Bureau has not completed the full qualification of the program staff in accordance with its written plan. The Bureau has committed to completing the hiring, training, and at least interim qualification of the minimum staff before the Agreement would be signed. The Bureau also committed to having a distribution of individual staff member qualifications which matches the expected distribution of categories of licensees to be transferred from NRC. For example, there must be enough inspectors qualified to inspect industrial radiography operations that the program is able to inspect the number of industrial radiography licensees transferred without developing a backlog.

The Atomic Energy Act requires NRC to publish the proposed Agreement in the Federal Register, and accept public comments. NRC procedures require the staff to address the issues raised in the comments, make appropriate changes to this assessment, propose appropriate changes to the Agreement, and present the Commission with a decision paper proposing final disposition of the request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich. If the Bureau does not meet its staffing commitments, but otherwise satisfies the criteria, NRC staff will recommend to the Commission that the Agreement be approved, but that the Agreement not be signed until all three commitments are satisfied.

Based on the above, the NRC staff review concluded that when the Ohio staff is filled,

trained, and qualified in accordance with the Bureau plans, it will have sufficient knowledge and experience in radiation protection, the use of radioactive materials, the standards for the evaluation of applications for licensing, and the techniques of inspecting licensed users of agreement materials to satisfy the criterion.

References: *Program Narrative Description; Organizational Charts of the Bureau of Radiation Protection; Training Program for Health Physics Personnel and Licensing, Inspection, and Decommissioning Technical Professional Staff Training and Qualification Procedure; and Current Staff Curricula Vitae*; in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

21. Conditions Applicable to Special Nuclear Material, Source Material and Tritium. **Nothing in the State's regulatory program shall interfere with the duties imposed on the holder of the materials by the NRC, for example, the duty to report to the NRC, on NRC prescribed forms (1) transfers of special nuclear material, source material and tritium and (2) periodic inventory data.**

The NRC staff review found that the Ohio law provides an exemption from the law, and rules adopted under the law, to persons subject to regulation by the NRC. Ohio also adopted 10 CFR Part 150 by reference to further inform persons of the exemptions and reservations of NRC authority under the Agreement. The NRC staff conclude that the criterion is satisfied.

Reference: Ohio Revised Code - Title 37 - Chapter 48, Section 3748.21; Ohio Administrative Code, Chapters 3701-38 and 3701-39.

22. Special Nuclear Material Defined. **Special nuclear material, in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass, for present purposes means uranium enriched in the isotope U-235 in quantities not exceeding 350 grams of contained U-235; uranium 233 in quantities not exceeding 200 grams; plutonium in quantities not exceeding 200 grams; or any combination of them in accordance with the following formula: For each kind of special nuclear material, determine the ratio between the quantity of that special nuclear material and the quantity specified above for the same kind of special nuclear material. The sum of such ratios for all of the kinds of special nuclear material in combination should not exceed "1" (i.e., unity). For example, the following quantities in combination would not exceed the limitation and are within the formula, as follows:**

$$\frac{175 \text{ (grams contained U-235)}}{350} + \frac{50 \text{ (grams U-233)}}{200} + \frac{50 \text{ (grams Pu)}}{200} = 1$$

**(This definition is subject to change by future Commission rule or regulation.)**

The definition of the term "special nuclear material in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass" is found in 10 CFR 150.11. The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has

adopted that section of the NRC regulations by reference. Staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

Reference: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

#### ADMINISTRATION

23. **Fair and Impartial Administration. State practices for assuring the fair and impartial administration of regulatory law, including provision for public participation where appropriate, should be incorporated in procedures for:**
- a. **Formulation of rules of general applicability;**
  - b. **Approving or denying applications for licenses or authorization to possess and use radioactive materials, and**
  - c. **Taking disciplinary actions against licensees.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that the Ohio radiation control program is bound by general statutory provisions with respect to providing the opportunity for public participation in rulemaking, licensing actions, and disciplinary actions. The program has adopted procedures to implement the law. The law also provides for the administrative and judicial review of actions taken by the program.

NRC staff has reviewed the pertinent procedures and determined that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Ohio Revised Code section 119; *Ohio Program for the Licensing of Radioactive Materials*, and *General Statement of Policy, Enforcement Actions*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

24. **State Agency Designation. The State should indicate which agency or agencies will have authority for carrying on the program and should provide the NRC with a summary of that legal authority. There should be assurances against duplicate regulation and licensing by State and local authorities, and it may be desirable that there be a single or central regulatory authority.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that the Ohio Department of Health is designated by law to be the State's radiation control agency. The Ohio low-level radioactive waste facility development authority is designated by law as the agency to adopt regulatory standards for the suitability of any proposed disposal site. The Department of Health would license and regulate the site after the Board has selected a site and the operator. The legal advisor to the Bureau of Radiation Control has confirmed that regulation of radioactive materials by local authorities is not permitted.

NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Ohio Revised Code sections 3747.05, 3748.02, and 3748.09.

25. Existing NRC Licenses and Pending Applications. **In effecting the discontinuance of jurisdiction, appropriate arrangements will be made by NRC and the State to ensure that there will be no interference with or interruption of licensed activities or the processing of license applications by reason of the transfer. For example, one approach might be that the State, in assuming jurisdiction, could recognize and continue in effect, for an appropriate period of time under State law, existing NRC licenses, including licenses for which timely applications for renewal have been filed, except where good cause warrants the earlier reexamination or termination of the license.**

The NRC staff review confirmed that Ohio law contains a provision which deems the holder of an NRC license on the effective date of the proposed Agreement to possess a similar license issued under the Ohio law and rules. These licenses would expire either 90 days after receipt, from the Ohio radiation control program, of a notice of expiration of such license or on the date of expiration specified in the NRC license, whichever is later. The Ohio law also provides that no license shall expire during the 90 days immediately following the effective date of the Agreement.

NRC staff has concluded that the Ohio program satisfies criterion 25.

Reference: Ohio Revised Code section 3748.03.

26. Relations With Federal Government and Other States. **There should be an interchange of Federal and State information and assistance in connection with the issuance of regulations and licenses or authorizations, inspection of licensees, reporting of incidents and violations, and training and education problems.**

The NRC staff review verified that the proposed Agreement commits Ohio to use its best efforts to cooperate with the NRC and the other Agreement States in the formulation of standards and regulatory programs for the protection against hazards of radiation and to assure that Ohio's program will continue to be compatible with the Commission's program for the regulation of Agreement materials.

Since criterion 26 was adopted, the Commission has determined in the revised policy statement on Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs (published 9/3/97 at 62 FR 46517) that providing reports to NRC of Agreement State licensee incidents, accidents and other significant events is a matter of compatibility. Ohio has adopted procedures to provide such reports to NRC. NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Proposed Agreement between the State of Ohio and the Nuclear

Regulatory Commission, Article VI; and the NRC Policy Statement on Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs.

27. Coverage, Amendments, Reciprocity. **An Agreement providing for discontinuance of NRC regulatory authority and the assumption of regulatory authority by the State may relate to any one or more of the following categories of materials within the State, as contemplated by Public Law 86-373 and Public Law 95-604:**
- a. **Byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e(1) of the Act,**
  - b. **Byproduct materials as defined in Section 11e(2) of the Act,**
  - c. **Source materials,**
  - d. **Special nuclear materials in quantities not sufficient to form a critical mass,**
  - e. **Low-level wastes in permanent disposal facilities, as defined by statute or Commission rules or regulations containing one or more of the materials stated in a, c, and d above but not including byproduct material as defined in Section 11e(2) of the Act;**

**but must relate to the whole of such category or categories and not to a part of any category. If less than the five categories are included in any discontinuance of jurisdiction, discontinuance of NRC regulatory authority and the assumption of regulatory authority by the State of the others may be accomplished subsequently by an amendment or by a later agreement.**

**Arrangements should be made for the reciprocal recognition of State licenses and NRC licenses in connection with out-of-jurisdiction operations by a State or NRC licensee.**

The NRC staff review verified that the proposed Agreement provides for the Commission to discontinue, and the State of Ohio to assume, regulatory authority over all five of the above categories. Furthermore, since the criterion was adopted, the Commission has determined that Agreement States may assume the authority to evaluate the safety of sealed sources and devices to be distributed in interstate commerce as a separate sixth portion of the Agreement, or to allow NRC to retain that authority. Ohio has chosen to assume that authority.

Reference: Proposed Agreement between the State of Ohio and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Articles I, II, and III; NRC Staff Requirements Memorandum SECY-95-136, dated June 30, 1995.

The proposed Agreement stipulates the desirability of reciprocal recognition of licenses, and commits the Commission and the State to use their best efforts to accord such reciprocity. Ohio has also adopted 10 CFR Part 150 by reference, including § 150.20



providing for the reciprocal recognition of licenses.

NRC staff concludes that the criterion is satisfied.

References: Proposed Agreement between the State of Ohio and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Article VII; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

28. NRC and Department of Energy Contractors. **The State should provide exemptions for NRC and DOE contractors which are substantially equivalent to the following exemptions:**
- a. **Prime contractors performing work for the DOE at U.S. Government-owned or controlled sites;**
  - b. **Prime contractors performing research in, or development, manufacture, storage, testing, or transportation of, atomic weapons or components thereof;**
  - c. **Prime contractors using or operating nuclear reactors or other nuclear devices in a U.S. Government-owned vehicle or vessel; and**
  - d. **Any other prime contractor or subcontractor of DOE or NRC when the State and the NRC jointly determine (i) that, under the terms of the contract or subcontract, there is adequate assurance that the work thereunder can be accomplished without undue risk to the public health and safety and (ii) that the exemption of such contractor or subcontractor is authorized by law.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR Part 30 by reference, including §30.12 wherein the specified exemptions are contained. Based on this, the NRC staff concludes that the Ohio regulations do provide exemptions from the State's requirements for licensing of sources of radiation for NRC and DOE contractors or subcontractors in accordance with this criterion.

Reference: Ohio Administrative Code, Chapters 3701-38 and 3701-39.

***Additional Criteria for States Regulating Uranium or Thorium Processors and Wastes Resulting Therefrom After November 8, 1981***

29. Authority. **State statutes or duly promulgated regulations should be enacted, if not already in place, to make clear State authority to carry out the requirements or Public Law 95-604, Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA) as follows:**

- a. Authority to regulate the tailings or wastes produced by the extraction or concentration of uranium or thorium from any ore processed primarily for its source material content.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio law authorizes the assumption of regulatory authority over "byproduct material" which is defined to include the tailings or wastes produced by the extraction or concentration of uranium or thorium from any ore processed primarily for its source material content.

Staff notes that no NRC licensee in Ohio currently conducts any activity which produces or uses byproduct material as defined in section 11e.(2) of the Act, nor is there any deposit of ore known to the NRC staff which is likely to be extracted for its source material content. Ohio has indicated that the authority to regulate 11e.(2) byproduct material is sought in order to enable the regulation of such material when used in research and development activities, or when it exists as contamination resulting from activities previously conducted at a site in Ohio.

References: Ohio Revised Code, sections 3748.01 and 3748.03, and the *Ohio Program for the Control of Residual Radioactive Material from Byproduct Materials as Defined in Division 3748.01(A)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code*, in the Request for an Agreement by Governor Voinovich, as revised.

- b. That an adequate surety (under terms established by regulation) will be provided by the licensee to assure the completion of all requirements established by the (cite appropriate State agency) for the decontamination, decommissioning, and reclamation of sites, structures, and equipment used in conjunction with the generation or disposal of such byproduct material.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio law requires the Public Health Council to adopt rules requiring adequate funding for long-term surveillance and specifying acceptable forms of financial guaranties (sureties).

Reference: Ohio Revised Code, section 3748.04.

- c. If in the States' licensing and regulation of byproduct material or of any activity which produces byproduct material, the State collects funds from the licensee or its surety for long-term surveillance and maintenance of such material, the total amount of the funds collected by the State shall be transferred to the U.S. if custody of the byproduct material and its disposal site is transferred to the Federal Government upon termination of the State license. (See 10 CFR 150.32.) If no default has occurred and the reclamation or other bonded activity has been performed, funds for the purpose are not to be transferred to the Federal Government. The funds collected by the State shall be sufficient to ensure compliance with the regulations the Commission establishes pursuant to Section 161X of the Atomic Energy Act.**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio law requires the collection of funds for long-term surveillance, and that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR 150.32 by reference.

References: Ohio Revised Code, section 3748.04; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

- d. In the issuances of licenses, an opportunity for written comments, public hearing (with transcript) and cross examination is required.**
- e. In the issuances of licenses, a written determination of the action to be taken based upon evidence presented during the public comment period and which is subject to judicial review is required.**
- f. A ban on major construction prior to completion of the written environmental analysis stipulated in Criterion 31.**
- g. An opportunity shall be provided for public participation through written comments, public hearings, and judicial review of rules.**

Ohio asserts that the State's administrative procedures law provides the general authority and process for public notice and public hearings with regard to issuing licenses. The NRC staff notes that the specific requirements in criteria items d. through g. are prescribed in 10 CFR 150.31, *Requirements for Agreement State regulation of byproduct material*. The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR 150.31 by reference.

References: Ohio Revised Code, section 119; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

The NRC staff review concluded that it is unlikely that any application for a license to process ore for its source material content will be made in Ohio, but that the legal and regulatory basis exists for the Bureau to evaluate such an application if one were submitted. Staff concludes that Ohio meets the requirements of the criterion.

30. Supporting Legislation. **In the enactment of any supporting legislation, the State should take into account the reservations of authority to the U.S. in UMTRCA as stated in 10 CFR 150.15a and summarized by the following:**

- a. The establishment of minimum standards governing reclamation, long-term surveillance or maintenance, and ownership of the byproduct material.**
- b. The determination that prior to the termination of a license, the licensee has complied with decontamination, decommissioning and reclamation standards, and ownership requirements for sites at which byproduct material is present.**
- c. The requirement that prior to termination of any license for byproduct**

material, as defined in Section 11e.(2), of the Atomic Energy Act or for any activity that results in the production of such material, title to such byproduct material and the disposal site be transferred to the Federal Government or State at the option of the State, provided such option is exercised prior to termination of the license.

- d. The authority to require such monitoring, maintenance, and emergency measures after the license is terminated as necessary to protect the public health and safety for those materials and property for which the State has assumed custody pursuant to Pub. L. 95-604.
- e. The authority to permit use of the surface or subsurface estate, or both of the land transferred to the United States or State pursuant under provision of the Uranium Mill Radiation Tailings Control Act.
- f. The authority to exempt land ownership transfer requirements of Section 83(b)(1)(A).

The NRC staff review verified that, as authorized by law, Ohio has adopted 10 CFR 150.15(a) by reference. NRC staff concludes that this meets the requirements of criterion 30.

References: Ohio Revised Code, section 3748.04; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

31. Environmental Assessment. It is preferable that State statutes contain the provisions of Section 6 of the Model Act, But the following may be accomplished by adoption of either procedures by regulation or technical criteria. In any case, authority for their implementation should be adequately supported by statute, regulation or case law as determined by the State Attorney General.

In the licensing and regulation of ores processed primarily for their source material content and for the disposal of byproduct material, procedures shall be established which provide a written analysis of the impact on the environment of the licensing activity. This analysis shall be available to the public before commencement of hearings and shall include:<sup>5</sup>

- a. An assessment of the radiological and nonradiological public health impacts;
- b. An assessment of any impact on any body of water or groundwater;
- c. Consideration of alternatives to the licensed activities; and

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<sup>5</sup>It is strongly recommended that a 30-day period be provided for public review.

**d. Consideration of long-term impacts of licensed activities (see Item 36b. (1)).**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR 150.31 by reference. The provisions of criterion 31 are contained in subsection 150.31(b)(3). NRC staff concludes that this meets the requirements of criterion 31.

References: Ohio Revised Code, section 3748.04; and rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

32. Regulations. **State regulations should be reviewed for regulatory requirements, and where necessary incorporate regulatory language which is equivalent to the extent practicable or more stringent than regulations and standards adopted and enforced by the Commission, as required by Section 274o (see 10 CFR 40 and 10 CFR 150.31(b)).**

The NRC staff review verified that Ohio has adopted 10 CFR Part 40, and 10 CFR 150.31(b) by reference.

References: Rule 3701-39-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

33. Organizational Relationships Within the States. **Organizational relationships should be established which will provide for an effective regulatory program for uranium mills and mill tailings.**

- a. **Charts should be developed which show the management organization and lines of authority. This chart should define the specific lines of supervision from program management within the radiation control group and any other department within the State responsible for contributing to the regulation of uranium processing and disposal of tailings. When other State agencies or regional offices are utilized, the lines of communication and administrative control between the agencies and/or regions and the Program Director should be clearly drawn.**
- b. **Those States that will utilize personnel from other State Departments or Federal agencies in preparing the environmental assessment should designate a lead agency for supervising and coordinating preparation of this environmental assessment. It is normally expected that the radiation control agency in Agreement States will be the lead agency. The basic premise is that the lead agency is required to prepare the environmental assessment. Utilization of an applicant's environmental report in lieu of a lead agency assessment of the proposed project is not adequate or appropriate. However, the lead agency may prepare an environmental assessment based upon an applicant's environmental report. Other credible information may be utilized by the State as long as such information is verified and documented by the State.**
- c. **When a lead agency is designated, that agency should coordinate**

**preparation of the statement. The other agencies involved should provide assistance with respect to their areas of jurisdiction and expertise. Factors relevant in obtaining assistance from other agencies include the applicable statutory authority, the time sequence in which the agencies become involved, the magnitude of their involvement, and relative expertise with respect to the project's environmental effects.**

**In order to bring an environmental assessment to a satisfactory conclusion, it is highly recommended that an initial scoping document be developed which clearly delineates the area and scope of work to be performed by each agency within a given time constraint.**

- d. For those areas in the environmental assessment where the State cannot identify a State agency having sufficient expertise to adequately evaluate the proposal or prepare an assessment, the State should have provisions for obtaining outside consulting services. In those instances where non-governmental consultants are utilized, procedures should be established to avoid conflict of interest consistent with State law and administrative procedures.**

**Medical consultants recognized for their expertise in emergency medical matters, such as the Oak Ridge and Hanford National Laboratories, relating to the intake or uranium and its diagnosis thereof associated with uranium mining and milling should be identified and available to the State for advice and direct assistance.**

**During the budget preparation, the State should allow for funding costs incurred by the use of consultants. In addition, consultants should be available for any emergencies which may occur and for which their expertise would be needed immediately.**

The NRC staff review determined that the provisions of criterion 33 are not addressed by the Ohio program. As noted above, however, staff knows of no deposit of ore in Ohio which is likely to be extracted for its source material content. Further, Ohio has indicated that the authority to regulate byproduct material as defined in section 11e.(2) of the Act is sought in order to enable the regulation of such material as it may be use in research and development activities, or as it may exist as site contamination. The Act, however, requires the Commission to maintain an orderly pattern of regulation, which the Commission believes to prohibit any Agreement which divides regulatory authority within a category of materials. The Commission can not transfer authority over 11e.(2) material only for the uses identified by Ohio.

Current Commission policy does allow a State to assume and retain regulatory authority over a category of materials for which no license or application for license exists. Further, if the legal and regulatory structure to regulate the materials exists, a State program is compatible even if it does not have the organizational structure to regulate the materials in place, but can establish one if an application is received. The NRC staff concludes that the Ohio program does have the authority to develop the organizational

structure and relationships required by criterion 33, should an application for a license to process ore for its source material content be received. On this basis, staff concludes that the Ohio program satisfies the requirements of criterion 33.

34. Personnel. **Personnel needed in the processing of the license application can be identified or grouped according to the following skills: Technical; Administrative; and Support.**

- a. **Administrative personnel are those persons who will provide internal guides, policy memoranda, reviews and managerial services necessary to assure completion of the licensing action. Support personnel are those persons who provide secretarial, clerical support, legal, and laboratory services. Technical personnel are those individuals who have the training and experience in radiation protection necessary to evaluate the engineering and radiological safety aspects of a uranium concentrator. Current indications are that 2 to 2.75 total professional person years' effort is needed to process a new conventional mill license, in situ license, or major renewal, to meet the requirements of UMTRCA. This number includes the effort for the environmental assessment and the in-plant safety review. It also includes the use of consultants. Heap leach applications may take less time and is expected to take 1.0 to 1.5 professional staff years' effort, depending on the circumstances encountered. Current indications are that the person years effort for support and legal services should be one secretary for approximately 2 conventional mills and ½ staff years for legal services for each noncontested mill case. The impact on environmental monitoring laboratory support services is difficult to estimate but should be added into the personnel requirements.**

**In addition, consideration should be given to various miscellaneous post-licensing ongoing activities including the issuance of minor amendments, inspections, and environmental surveillance. It is estimated that these activities may require about 0.5 to 1 person years effort per licensed facility per year, the latter being the case for a major facility. These figures do not include manpower for Title I activities of UMTRCA.**

- b. **In evaluating license applications the State shall have access to necessary specialities, e.g., radiological safety, hydrology, geology and dam construction and operation.**

**In addition to the personnel qualifications listed in the "Guide for Evaluation of State Radiation Control Programs," Revision 3, February 1, 1980, the regulatory staff involved in the regulatory process (Radiation) should have additional training in Uranium Mill Health Physics and Environmental Assessments.**

- c. **Personnel in agencies other than the lead agency are included in these**

**total person year numbers. If other agencies are counted in these numbers then it shall be demonstrated that these personnel will be available on a routine and continuing basis to a degree claimed as necessary to successfully comply with the requirements of UMTRCA and these criteria. The arrangements for making such resources available shall be documented, such as an interagency memorandum of understanding and confirmed by budgetary cost centers.**

The NRC staff review determined that the provisions of criterion 34 are not addressed by the Ohio program. However, the discussions in criterion 33 also apply here. On this basis, staff concludes that Ohio program satisfies the requirements of criterion 34.

35. **Functions To Be Covered. The States should develop procedures for licensing, inspection, and preparation of environmental assessments.**
- a. Licensing**
- (1) Licensing evaluations or assessments should include in-plant radiological safety aspects in occupational or restricted areas and environmental impacts to populations in unrestricted areas from the plant.**
- (2) It is expected that the State will review, evaluate and provide documentation of these evaluations. Items which should be evaluated are:**
- (a) Proposed activities;**
  - (b) Scope of proposed action;**
  - (c) Specific activities to be conducted;**
  - (d) Administrative procedures;**
  - (e) Facility organization and radiological safety responsibilities, authorities, and personnel qualifications;**
  - (f) Licensee audits and inspections;**
  - (g) Radiation safety training programs for workers;**
  - (h) Radiation safety program, control and monitoring;**
  - (i) Restricted area markings and access control;**
  - (j) At existing mills, review of monitoring data, exposure records, licensee audit and inspection records, and other records applicable to existing mills;**
  - (k) Environmental monitoring;**
  - (l) Emergency procedures, radiological;**
  - (m) Product transportation; and**
  - (n) Site and physical decommissioning procedures, other than tailings.**
  - (o) Employee exposure data and bioassay programs.**



**b. Environmental Assessment**

(1) The environmental evaluation should consist of a detailed and documented evaluation of the following items:

- (a) Topography;
- (b) Geology;
- (c) Hydrology and water quality;
- (d) Meteorology;
- (e) Background radiation;
- (f) Tailings retention system;
- (g) Interim stabilization, reclamation, and Site Decommissioning Program;
- (h) Radiological Dose Assessment;
  - (1) Source terms
  - (2) Exposure pathway
  - (3) Dose commitment to individuals
  - (4) Dose commitment to populations
  - (5) Evaluation of radiological impacts to the public to include a determination of compliance with State and Federal regulations and comparisons with background values
  - (6) Occupational dose
  - (7) Radiological impact to biota other than man
  - (8) Radiological monitoring programs, pre-occupational and operational
- (i) Impacts to surface and groundwater, both quality and quantity;
- (j) Environmental effects of accidents; and
- (k) Evaluation of tailings management alternatives in terms of regulations.

(2) The States are encouraged to examine the need to expand the scope of the assessment into other areas such as:

- (a) Ecology;
- (b) Environmental effects of site preparation and facility construction on environment and biota;
- (c) Environmental effects of use and discharge of chemicals and fuels; and
- (d) Economic and social effects.

**c. Inspections**

(1) As a minimum, items which should be inspected or included during the inspection of a uranium mill should adhere to the items evaluated in the in-plant safety review. The principal items recommended for inspection are:

- (a) Administration;
- (b) Mill circuit, including any additions, deletions, or circuit changes;

- (c) Accidents/Incidents;
  - (d) Part 19 or equivalent requirements of the State;
  - (e) Action taken on previous findings;
  - (f) A mill tour to determine compliance with regulations, and license conditions;
  - (g) Tailings waste management in accordance with regulations and license conditions (see NRC Reg. Guide 3.11.1);
  - (h) Records;
  - (i) Respiratory protection in accordance with license conditions or 10 CFR Part 20.
  - (j) Effluent and environmental monitoring;
  - (k) Training programs;
  - (l) Transportation and shipping;
  - (m) Internal review and audit by management;
  - (n) Exit interview; and
  - (o) Final written report documenting the results of the inspection and findings on each item.
- (2) In addition, the inspector should perform the following:
- (a) Independent surveys and sampling.
- (3) Additional guidance is contained in appropriate NRC regulatory and inspection guides. A complete inspection should be performed at least once per year.
- d. **Operational Data Review**
- (1) In addition to the reporting requirements required by the regulations or license conditions, the licensee will submit in writing to the regulatory agency within 60 days after January 1 and July 1 of each year, reports specifying the quantity of each of the principal radionuclides released to unrestricted areas in liquid and in gaseous effluents during the previous six months of operation. This data shall be reported in a manner that will permit the regulatory agency to confirm the potential annual radiation doses to the public.
  - (2) All data from the radiological and non-radiological environmental monitoring program will also be submitted for the same time periods and frequency. The data will be reported in a manner that will allow the regulatory agency to confirm the dose to receptors.

The NRC staff review determined that the provisions of criterion 35 are not addressed by the Ohio program. However, for the reasons discussed in criterion 33, staff concludes that Ohio program satisfies the requirements of criterion 35.

36. **Instrumentation.** The State should have available both field and laboratory instrumentation sufficient to ensure the licensee's control of materials and to validate the licensee's measurements.
- a. The State will submit its list of instrumentation to the NRC for review. Arrangements should be made for calibrating such equipment.
  - b. Laboratory-type instrumentation should be available in a State agency or through a commercial service which has the capability for quantitative and qualitative analysis of radionuclides associated with natural uranium and its decay chain, primarily; U-238, Ra-226, Th-232, Pb-210, and Rn-222, in a variety of sample media such as will be encountered from an environmental sampling program.  
  
Analysis and data reduction from laboratory analytical facilities should be available to the licensing and inspection authorities in a timely manner. Normally, the data should be available within 30 days of submittal. State acceptability of quality assurance (QA) programs should also be established for the analytical laboratories.
  - c. Arrangements should also be completed so that a large number of samples in a variety of sample media resulting from a major accident can be analyzed in a time frame that will allow timely decisions to be made regarding public health and safety.
  - d. Arrangements should be made to participate in the Environmental Protection Agency quality assurance program for laboratory performance.

The NRC staff review determined that the provisions of criterion 36 are not addressed by the Ohio program. However, for the reasons discussed in criterion 33, staff concludes that Ohio program satisfies the requirements of criterion 36.

#### STAFF CONCLUSION

Section 274d of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, states that "The Commission shall enter into an agreement under subsection b of this section with any State if:

- (1) The Governor of that State certifies that the State has a program for the control of radiation hazards adequate to protect the public health and safety with respect to the materials within the State covered by the proposed agreement, and that the State desires to assume regulatory responsibility for such materials; and
- (2) The Commission finds that the State program is in accordance with the requirements of subsection o. and in all other respects compatible with the Commission's program for the regulation of such materials, and that the State program is adequate to protect the public health and safety with respect to the materials covered by the proposed amendment."

The NRC staff has reviewed the proposed Agreement, the certification of Ohio Governor Voinovich, and the supporting information provided by the staff of the Bureau of Radiation Protection of the Ohio Department of Health, and concludes that, except as discussed above in criterion 20, Qualifications of Regulatory and Inspection Personnel, the State of Ohio satisfies the criteria in the Commission's policy statement "Criteria for Guidance of States and NRC in Discontinuance of NRC Regulatory Authority and Assumption Thereof by States Through Agreement," and therefore meets the requirements of Section 274 of the Act. The proposed Ohio program to regulate Agreement materials, as comprised of statutes, regulations, procedures, and apparatus, is compatible with the program of the Commission and is adequate to protect public health and safety with respect to the materials covered by the proposed Agreement.

With respect to criterion 20, the NRC staff concludes that the proposed program staff would satisfy the criterion if the three commitments by the Bureau of Radiation Protection are fulfilled.

## ATTACHMENT 5

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private  
Property and Nuclear Safety  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to inform the Subcommittee that by letter dated June 22, 1998, Governor George V. Voinovich on behalf of the State of Ohio submitted a proposed Agreement between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the State of Ohio under Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

An announcement of the proposed Agreement, along with a summary of the NRC staff assessment of the proposed Ohio program will be published in the Federal Register. A pre-publication copy of the Federal Register Notice is enclosed.

We will inform you when the Commission has completed its consideration of the proposed Agreement.

Sincerely,

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director  
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:  
As stated

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman  
 Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private  
 Property and Nuclear Safety  
 Committee on Environment and Public Works  
 United States Senate  
 Washington, D. C. 20510

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Dennis K. Rathbun, Director  
 Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure:  
 As stated

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Ohio File \*Identical letters sent to the  
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**IDENTICAL LETTERS TO:**

The Honorable Bob Graham  
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, Private  
Property and Nuclear Safety  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable Dan Schaefer, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Power  
Committee on Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Ranking Minority Member  
Subcommittee on Energy and Power  
Committee on Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

**Ohio Congressional Delegation**Senators

The Honorable Mike DeWine  
The Honorable George V. Voinovich

Representatives

The Honorable Steve Chabot  
The Honorable Rob Portman  
The Honorable Tony P. Hall  
The Honorable Michael G. Oxley  
The Honorable Paul E. Gillmor  
The Honorable Ted Strickland  
The Honorable David L. Hobson  
The Honorable John A. Boehner  
The Honorable Marcy Kaptur  
The Honorable Dennis J. Kucinich  
The Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones  
The Honorable John R. Kasich  
The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
The Honorable Thomas C. Sawyer  
The Honorable Deborah Pryce  
The Honorable Ralph Regula  
The Honorable James A. Traficant, Jr.



The Honorable Robert W. Ney  
The Honorable Steven C. LaTourette



## ATTACHMENT 6

## DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

### NRC CONSIDERING REQUEST BY OHIO TO BE AN 'AGREEMENT STATE'

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is considering a request from former Ohio Governor George V. Voinovich that Ohio assume part of NRC's regulatory authority over certain nuclear materials. If the agreement is accepted, Ohio will become the 31<sup>st</sup> State to sign such an agreement with NRC.

Under the agreement, NRC would transfer to Ohio the responsibility for licensing, rulemaking, inspection and enforcement concerning the use of (1) radioactive materials produced as byproducts during operation of certain nuclear reactors; (2) uranium and thorium source materials; and (3) small quantities of fissionable materials.

The agreement also would allow the State to regulate the land disposal of radioactive waste and to conduct safety evaluations of sealed radioactive sources and devices for medical and industrial use.

By law, NRC retains jurisdiction over regulation of nuclear reactors and other major nuclear facilities. It also continues to regulate Federal agencies which use certain nuclear materials and companies which distribute such materials (as in smoke detectors) to members

of the public.

If the agreement is approved, about 550 NRC licenses, most of them for medical and industrial uses, would be transferred to the jurisdiction of the State of Ohio.

Before entering into the agreement, NRC must determine that the State's radiation control program is adequate to protect public health and safety, and is compatible with the agency's own program for regulating the radioactive materials covered in the agreement.

The proposed agreement, along with an assessment of the Ohio proposed regulatory program, is published for public comment in the **(date)** edition of the Federal Register and also will be published once each week for the next three weeks. Comments should be sent to David L. Meyer, Chief, Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

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