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high level nuclear waste office

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor

Patrick D. Spurgin, Director
Jack Wittman, Associate Director

September 30, 1985

WM Record File

106.1

WM Project

16

Docket No.

PDR

LPDR

Joseph O. Bunting
Chief Policy and Program Control Branch
Division of Waste Management
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Distribution:

REB MJB
JOB DRM

RDM HJM
CFR WKerr

(Return to WM, 623-SS)

Winchen R Johnson
Gary Sanborn Sac

Dear Mr. Bunting:

Thank you for your letter of September 20, 1985 concerning Nuclear Regulatory Commission plans for State participation in NRC review of Department of Energy documents. Please note that at the close of our July 8, 1985 meeting, I was left with the impression that you intended to have additional contact with the first-round states and tribes subsequently to the meeting in order to get a general sense of the states' position on involvement in NRC activities. It was my understanding at that time that we would have additional discussions on the basis of information you received in meetings with other states. It was my intention to address any consensus reached through such contacts in a letter discussing the states' preferences in detail. I regret any inconvenience that might have resulted from any misunderstandings concerning subsequent actions by this office or by your office.

With respect to your September 20th letter, I anticipate that a schedule allowance of an additional two weeks for interaction with the states and tribes on major NRC milestones identified in the PDS will provide a significant opportunity for state input into the site selection and licensing process. We also regard procedural changes within NRC which are related to the NRC/DOE meetings to be worthwhile and necessary.

It is our intention to contact your office in the very near future concerning additional details of state/NRC interaction. Your efforts to provide for state and tribal participation in the NRC NWPA program are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. Spurgin
Patrick D. Spurgin
Director

3:31 PM OCT 3 1985

PDS/hud

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