



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 7, 2006

Dr. Khazir Wasti, Director
Division of Health Standards and Control
Virginia Department of Health
109 Governor Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Dr. Wasti:

I appreciated the opportunity to discuss with you Virginia's interest in entering into an agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) under Section 274b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. To date, 33 States have signed agreements with the NRC, by which those States have assumed regulatory responsibility over certain byproduct, source, and small quantities of special nuclear material. Minnesota is scheduled to become the 34th Agreement State on March 31, 2006.

We would welcome the opportunity to provide a briefing on the Agreement State Program to you and appropriate staff. Enclosed is a copy of the Office of State and Tribal Programs (STP) Procedure SA-700, *Processing an Agreement*. STP Procedure SA-700, describes the methods and guidelines for reviewing the request for an Agreement. It also provides guidance to State staff on the information to include in a request for an Agreement. Also enclosed is a copy of the Agreement State Map.

Ms. Shawn Rochelle Smith, of my staff, has been assigned as the NRC Project Manager for assisting Virginia in the process of becoming an Agreement State. If you or your staff have any questions or wish to obtain additional information, please feel free to contact me at 301-415-3340 or Ms. Smith at 301-415-2620 or email: srs3@nrc.gov. I look forward to working with you and your staff in the process of becoming an Agreement State.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Janet R. Schlueter, Director
Office of State and Tribal Programs

Enclosures:

1. STP Procedure SA-700
2. Agreement State Map