



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

WAB

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Ref: SA/RJD



Dr. Frank Traylor, Executive Director
Colorado Department of Health
4210 East 11th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220

Dear Dr. Traylor:

Your letter with responses to our recommendations concerning our special review of the Colorado Radiation Control Program and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Report on the Cotter Uranium Mill was received November 25, 1980. We have studied your responses in some detail and believe they represent positive initial actions with respect to issues identified during our recent reviews regarding overall improvements in the radiation control program.

Since many of the recommendations contained in my letter of October 29, 1980 require some period of time to implement, we plan to review the status of these subjects during our next review of the Colorado Radiation Control Program. The subjects that will receive our special attention during the next review will include: (1) the performance of unannounced inspections as a routine CDH policy; (2) actual practice regarding follow-up inspections and corrective actions; (3) written escalated enforcement procedures with clear procedural steps for cases requiring additional enforcement actions; (4) laboratory support supplied to the radiation control program; (5) automatic data processing capability in place or planned; (6) legislative action regarding civil penalty authority; (7) current CDH policy for updating regulations, and (8) radiation control program staffing.

With respect to number 3 above, you indicated that written procedures are being prepared. We would appreciate receiving a copy of these completed procedures for our review at the earliest time that they become available.

The subject of staffing, number 8 above, is of primary importance and bears heavily on several of the other recommendations to which you responded. We believe that some of the problems noted in the CBI report may be attributable to a lack of adequate staffing for the radiation control program.

On February 20, 1981, Chairman Ahearne wrote to Governor Lamm on the State's readiness to seek an amended agreement with the NRC for the regulation of uranium mills and mill tailings after November 8, 1981 and highlighted the State's need to obtain adequate staffing for this purpose.

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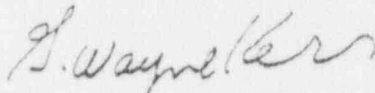
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Dr. Frank Traylor

- 2 -

We appreciate your attention to the recommendations from our special review. If you have any questions concerning the review or any other aspects of our mutual interest in an effective and an adequate radiation control program, please contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. Wayne Kerr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "G." and last name "Kerr" being the most prominent parts.

G. Wayne Kerr, Director
Office of State Programs

cc: Dr. R. Arnott
A. J. Hazle
NRC Public Document Room
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