



Mississippi State Department of Health

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Bolling

Alton B. Cobb, M.D., M.P.H.
State Health Officer

March 15, 1985

Mr. Donald A. Nussbaumer, Assistant Director
for State Agreements Programs
Office of State Programs
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Nussbaumer:

It has come to my attention that there is doubt within the NRC pertaining to full Agreement State support for the concerns expressed by the Agreement State Committee reviewing 10 CFR Part 35. On behalf of the Mississippi Division of Radiological Health, Radioactive Materials Branch, I would like to express my support and the support of my Agency regarding the concerns of the Review Committee (see enclosure). I am particularly pleased with Items 3. and 4. of Mr. Godwin's enclosed letter.

The role of state inspectors concerned with radiation safety and public health has become increasingly difficult and characterized by uncertain rewards. However, most Agreement State Radiation Control personnel are still keenly interested in performing their duties to the best of their abilities even in the face of adversity. Yet, this dedication will not suffice if the tools to do a good job are eliminated or drastically altered. The effect on Agreement State morale and productivity could be severe, and the additional drain on NRC resources could be acute. In such a situation, there is no doubt that the common interests of the NRC and the Agreement States would be affected.

I hope that this controversy can be settled in an atmosphere of cooperation and understanding, since we all work toward the same goals.

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Smith, Branch Director
Radioactive Materials
Division of Radiological Health

MJS/w

Enclosure

cc: Aubrey V. Godwin, Director
Alabama Radiological Health Program

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