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Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

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February 18, 2000

Bureau of Radiation Protection

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Paul H. Lohaus, Director
Office of State Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Paul:

It was nice to see you briefly yesterday at NRC Headquarters. It was my intent to stop by your office today, but the bad weather forced my early return to Harrisburg. Nevertheless, I'm pleased to report we are still on track with the work on our Agreement State program. Our revised regulation for incorporation-by-reference of NRC's regulations will be presented to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) in May, and should be in place as a final rule within a year. Similarly, we are going to our Advising Committee to revise our fee structure in March. We should be able to present this to EQB in the summer.

With respect to program funding, we have sufficient reserves to allow the hiring of required staff over the next 2 years, and I expect to hire over 12 new staff for licensing and inspections. We will have all these staff trained for their respective roles by the time the agreement is signed, and still expect this to happen in late CY2001.

Should you or your staff have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David J. Allard, CHP
Director

cc: William P. Kirk, DEP

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