

DATED: JAN 6, 1993

Mr. J. W. Luna, Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Environment
and Conservation
L and C Tower, 21st Floor
Nashville, TN 37243-0435

Dear Mr. Luna:

Thank you for your letter of December 2, 1992, responding to our comments and recommendations following our September 3, 1992 follow-up review of your Department's Radiation Control Program.

We are pleased that Tennessee has adopted "Radiation Safety Requirements For Well Logging" regulations. A copy of these regulations that became effective on November 23, 1992 has been received by our Region II office and the regulations are in the process of being evaluated for compatibility with the NRC regulations.

We appreciate the State's efforts to improve the salary structure for the employees. We understand from our discussions with Mr. Mobley that all Environmental Specialist positions will receive a salary increase on January 1, 1993, depending upon the position, and that the Health Physicist positions are expected to be established under a separate Department of Personnel action at a later date. We believe that the Health Physics reclassification is needed to improve the staff's continuity. Please keep us informed on the progress of these personnel actions.

Mr. Mobley has also informed us that Tennessee sponsored a 5-week Health Physics Course at the Oak Ridge Institute of Technology and Science for the newly hired technical personnel in his Program. In response, we have made plans to conduct a special Inspection Procedures Course for the new personnel, and this course is scheduled for the week of April 19 - 23, 1993. In view of the expeditious and significant actions taken to improve the Tennessee program, we would like to commend the State for its outstanding efforts. We look forward to the continued progress by the State.

We have discussed our tentative plans with Mr. Mobley to conduct a review visit of his program in May or June of 1993. This visit would be to assess the progress that the State is making towards resolution of our comments and recommendations, and the status of the inspection program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office at any time.

Sincerely,

Carlton Kammerer, Director
Office of State Programs

cc: S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator, Region II, NRC
M. Mobley, Director, Division of Radiological Health, TN

cc: S. D. Ebnetter, Regional Administrator
Region II, NRC
M. Mobley, Director, Division of
Radiological Health, TN
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