

DATED: MAY 17, 1995

SIGNED BY PAUL H. LOHAUS FOR  
RICHARD L. BANGART

Mr. Mark E. Weidler, Secretary  
Environment Department  
1190 St. Francis Drive  
P.O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Mr. Weidler:

Thank you for your letter of April 5, 1995, which responded to the comments and recommendations from our 1994 review of the New Mexico radiation control program.

Your responses provided detailed information on how you have addressed or are addressing our recommendations. We appreciate the positive actions that you and your staff are implementing with regard to our comments and recommendations. In particular, we are pleased to learn that the nine regulations needed for compatibility, which included the regulations equivalent to 10 CFR Part 20, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation," have been adopted. We have received copies of these final New Mexico Radiation Protection Regulations which are dated May 3, 1995.

As you noted in your letter, NRC staff reviewed drafts of these regulations as submitted on September 12, 1994, and on December 8, 1994. The rules were reviewed in comparison to the equivalent NRC regulations in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and the equivalent rules in the *Suggested State Regulations for the Control of Radiation (SSR)*. Based on this review, we offered a tentative finding in our letter dated January 9, 1995, that the revised draft regulations were compatible with the equivalent regulations of the NRC. We will conduct a similar review of your final regulations and will make a final determination of compatibility following that review.

We are also pleased with the actions being taken relative to our comments and recommendation concerning upgrading of the Bureau's internal procedures manual. Copies of many of these procedures were enclosed with your letter. We agree fully with your plan to provide each technical staff member with a copy of this procedures manual, when completed. We will review the status of your activities to issue revised procedures as a part of our next program review.

Mark E. Weidler

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I appreciate your support of the Radiation Control Program and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Bangart, Director  
Office of State Programs

cc:

Benito Garcia, State Liaison Officer  
Bureau of Hazardous and Radioactive Material  
Environment Department

William Floyd, Manager Radiation Program,  
Environment Department

Mark E. Weidler

-2-

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