

SAMPLE Press Release to be Issued by the Office of Public Affairs

NRC TO REASSERT REGULATORY AUTHORITY IN [STATE]

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission [NRC] is reasserting its regulatory authority over the possession and use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials in [State] [OPTIONAL TEXT: at the request of the Governor].

The action, which is effective on [Date], is being taken in order to ensure that public health and safety will be protected. [Facts requiring termination should be given, including information on a hearing, if held.]

Under Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, individual States can assume part of the NRC's regulatory authority over the possession and use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials. In order to effect and maintain such a transfer of authority, the State must demonstrate that its program is adequate to protect the public health and safety and is also compatible with the Commission's program for regulating those materials. The State of [State Name] signed an Agreement with the NRC in [Year] that authorized the State to regulate these radioactive materials.

Section 274j of the Atomic Energy Act gives the Commission authority to terminate all or part of its Agreement with a State if the termination is required to protect the public health and safety, or if the State has not complied with one or more of the requirements of Section 274 of the Act. In cases where the Commission finds that program deficiencies related to either adequacy or compatibility are such that the Commission must take action, the Commission will terminate all or part of its Agreement with the State.

Licensees in [State] are being advised of the NRC's action in Order [Date], and the NRC staff has identified files which are to be transferred from [State] authorities. In the meantime, the affected [State's Name] licenses, as currently issued, will remain in effect until they can be revised, if necessary, to meet NRC's requirements.