<u>DRAFT</u>

The Honorable Donald L. Carcieri Governor of Rhode Island Providence, RI 02908

Dear Governor Carcieri:

In response to your May 16, 2006, request to relinquish Rhode Island's authority to evaluate and approve sealed source and device (SS&D) applications, I asked the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff to prepare a paper on the issue so that the Commission could act on your request. After reviewing your proposal and the staff's analysis, the Commission has decided to assume regulatory authority for SS&D evaluations and approvals within the State of Rhode Island, effective July 1, 2006. For your information, I have enclosed a pre-publication copy of the <u>Federal Register</u> Notice announcing this change. Rhode Island will retain authority to regulate the manufacture and use of SS&D within the State in accordance with its Section 274b Agreement with the NRC.

Your staff may contact Janet R. Schlueter, Director, Office of State and Tribal Programs, at (301) 415-3340, if they have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Nils J. Diaz

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Marie Stoeckel, Chief Office of Occupational & Radiological Health Rhode Island Department of Health

**ENCLOSURE 2**