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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

January 4, 2000

The Honorable Edward T. Schafer
Governor of North Dakota
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0001

Dear Governor Schafer:

In 1976, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) adopted a recommendation from several State organizations, including the National Governors' Association, that we request each State to appoint a single person to act as liaison to NRC for the purpose of improving Federal/State cooperation. The NRC looks to the Governor-appointed State Liaison Officers to provide a communication channel between the States and the NRC, to be the key person in the State to keep the Governor completely informed on nuclear regulatory and related public health and safety matters, and to provide NRC with answers to questions posed to the States on particular issues.

I am writing to request the continued participation of the State of North Dakota in the NRC's State Liaison Officer program. It is my understanding that the most recent State Liaison Officer, Dana K. Mount, former Director of the Division of Environmental Engineering in the North Dakota Department of Health, has been replaced by Jeffery L. Burgess. The NRC will continue to work with Mr. Burgess, unless you inform us of a new choice, and we will keep you informed of our programs and activities through Mr. Burgess. At the same time, we will maintain our ties to various individuals in State agencies with whom we have established relationships on specific issues.

The Commission looks forward to the continued participation by the State of North Dakota in the NRC's State Liaison Officer program. I hope that you share the Commission's belief in the value of this program. If you or your staff have any questions or wish additional information, please contact Paul H. Lohaus, Director of NRC's Office of State Programs in Headquarters at 301-415-3340 or Charles A. Hackney, our Region IV State Liaison Officer, at 817-860-8267.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Meserve

cc: Jeffery L. Burgess

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PDR COMMISS NRCC CORRES