

March 6, 2000

The Honorable James S. Gilmore III
Governor of Virginia
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Gilmore:

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.

It is my understanding that the most recent State Liaison Officer, George Urquhart, Director of the Preparedness and Mitigation Division, Virginia Department of Emergency Preparedness, has left his position and that Art Warren is now serving in an acting capacity. The NRC will continue to work with Mr. Warren and unless you choose a new State Liaison Officer, we will keep you informed of our programs and activities through Mr. Warren. At the same time, we will continue to work with various individuals in State agencies with whom we have established relationships for specific issues.

The Commission looks forward to continued participation by the Commonwealth of Virginia in the NRC's State Liaison Officer 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 Robert Trojanowski, our Region II State Liaison Officer in Atlanta, Georgia at (404) 562-4427.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

cc: Art Warren