August 27, 2020

The Honorable Ralph Northam
Governor of Virginia
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Governor Northam:

I am writing to request your appointment of a State Liaison Officer (SLO), who will act as the Commonwealth of Virginia's primary liaison to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). In Spring 2020, we learned that Dr. Jeffery Stern, the previously-named SLO, accepted a position with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. We will continue to work with Mr. Edward Porner, Director of the Disaster Response, Recovery and Radiological Preparedness Division, in the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, on an interim basis until we receive your formal designation of an SLO.

The roles of the SLO and background information of the SLO program are described in the enclosure and include the receipt of security sensitive information relating to the use and transportation of certain radioactive materials. Please see the enclosure for additional information. The NRC will keep you informed of our programs and activities through your selected appointee. At the same time, we will continue to work with other individuals in Virginia State agencies with whom we have established relationships. If you or your staff have any questions concerning this correspondence or wish to obtain additional information about the State Liaison Officer Program, please contact Mr. Kevin Williams, Deputy Director, Division of Materials Safety, State, and Tribal Programs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, at (301) 415-3340 or via e-mail at Kevin.Williams@nrc.gov.

I thank you in advance for your assistance. The Commission looks forward to your response. I look forward to our agencies continuing to work cooperatively in the future in ensuring public health and safety, and security.

Sincerely,

Kristine L. Svinicki

Enclosure:
The Role of the State Liaison Officer

cc w/encl: John Pelchat, Region II
Edwin Lea, Region II