

May 3, 2000

The Honorable Bob Taft
Governor of Ohio
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0601

Dear Governor Taft:

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, James R. Williams, Executive Director, Ohio Emergency Management Agency, has retired and that Nancy Dragani is now serving in an acting capacity. The NRC will continue to work with Ms. Dragani, and, unless you choose a new State Liaison Officer, we will keep you informed of our programs and activities through Ms. Dragani. At the same time, we will continue to work with 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 Ohio 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 and Tribal Programs in Headquarters at 301-415-3340 or Roland M. Lickus, our Region III State Liaison Officer, at 630-829-9660.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

cc: Nancy Dragani