

February 1, 2001

The Honorable Rick Perry  
Governor of Texas  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

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.

Former Governor Bush appointed John Howard, Director of Environmental and Natural Resources Policy, as Texas' State Liaison Officer. We understand that Mr. Howard has left his position. We will continue to work with Roger Mulder of the State Energy Conservation Office, who is temporarily performing the function of State Liaison Officer. Until you inform us of a new State Liaison Officer, we will keep you informed of our programs and activities through Mr. Mulder. At the same time, we will maintain our ties with various individuals in State agencies with whom we have established relationships for specific issues.

The Commission looks forward to the continued participation by the State of Texas in the NRC State Liaison Officer program. If you or your staff have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact Paul H. Lohaus, Director of NRC's Office of State and Tribal Programs in Headquarters at 301-415-3340 or Charles A. Hackney, our Region IV State Liaison Officer, at 817-860-8267.

I am looking forward to continuing an excellent working relationship with the State of Texas.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Richard A. Meserve

cc: Roger Mulder