



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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February 6, 2009

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Rob Lewis (Director DMSS)
Mail Stop T-8024
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I am following up on today's conference call with NRC staff from Region I and HQ regarding the adequacy of staffing for Virginia's radioactive materials program.

Currently the radioactive materials program have five technical positions including the supervisor. In the fall of 2008, one of the inspector positions became vacant. Our agency completed recruitment for the position; however, the selected individual later declined after accepting the position several weeks earlier. We returned to the applicant pool and offered the position to the second qualified applicant, who declined. The third choice accepted and again a few weeks later on February 5 informed us he had received a better offer.

I immediately notified our Human Resource personnel and was informed that the position will be re-advertised from February 9- 20. I anticipate filling this position in April 2009. Since this is a position critical to the agency's mission, the position will be actively recruited until filled. In other words, I am not concerned that our program will lose the position in any budget or staffing reductions while vacant.

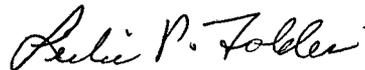
Meanwhile I have transferred an existing position within the Division of Radiological Health effective immediately to the Radioactive Materials Program. Ryan Paris has been employed with the Virginia Department of Health in the Division of Radiological Health as a full time employee since 2000. He is a Radiation Safety Specialist, which is the same occupational classification as the radioactive materials inspectors. Ryan has successfully completed the NRC licensing and inspection courses about three years ago. Prior to Mike Welling's designation as the supervisor for the radioactive materials program, Ryan performed most of the licensing and inspection duties for this activity. Ryan has a BS in Zoology from Oregon State University, M.S. in Science Teaching in

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Biology from Portland State University. Ryan has also attended a course in gamma spectroscopy at Oak Ridge. Currently he is studying to take the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologist examination at the end of this month.

I hope the information provided will demonstrate that our program has adequate technical staffing for the pending agreement with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. You may contact me at (804) 864-8151 or by email at Les.Foldesi@vdh.virginia.gov if you require additional information.

Best regards,



Leslie P. Foldesi, M.S., CHP, Director
Division of Radiological Health

cc: Terry Reis
Monica Orendi