May 21, 2010

The Honorable Bob Riley
Governor of Alabama
State Capitol
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Riley:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am writing to invite you to designate a State Liaison Officer to act as the State of Alabama's liaison to the NRC. In 1976, the Commission 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 a liaison to the NRC for the purpose of improving Federal and State cooperation. The NRC relies on the Governor-appointed State Liaison Officer to serve as the primary communication channel for the State. The State Liaison Officer informs the Governor of issues under NRC's jurisdiction such as nuclear regulation, nuclear security, and radiological public health and safety, and informs the NRC of State issues, such as nuclear safety, security, or environmental issues.

I understand that the most recent State Liaison Officer, Kirksey E. Whatley, Director, Office of Radiation Control, State Department of Public Health, retired. Until you designate a new State Liaison Officer, the NRC will work on an interim basis with James L. McNees, Director, Office of Radiation Control. At the same time, NRC will continue to work with various individuals in State agencies with whom the NRC has established relationships on specific issues.

The Commission looks forward to the continued participation of the State of Alabama in the NRC's State Liaison Officer program. If you or your staff have any questions or wish to obtain additional information, please have them contact Mark Shaffer, Director of NRC's Division of Intergovernmental Liaison and Rulemaking, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, at (301) 415-7278, or NRC's Region II State Liaison Officer, Mr. Robert Trojanowski, at (404) 562-4427.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Gregory B. Jaczko

cc: James McNees
Interim State Liaison Officer