UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 28, 2018

Dr. Jeffrey D. Stern
State Coordinator
Virginia Department of
Emergency Management
10501 Trade Court
North Chesterfield, VA 23236-3713

SUBJECT: STATE LIAISON OFFICER APPOINTMENT

Dear Dr. Stern:

I am pleased to learn of your re-appointment as the State Liaison Officer (SLO) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for the Commonwealth of Virginia. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued service in your position and provide some general information and reminders about the role of the SLO in serving as the principal communications liaison between the NRC and your State.

The SLO Program was established in 1976 in response to recommendations from the National Governors Association and other organizations to improve cooperation between the NRC and the States. The NRC relies on the Governor-appointed SLOs to act as the primary communication channel between the States and the NRC. The SLO serves as the key person in the State to keep the Governor informed on issues under the NRC's jurisdiction (specifically matters addressing nuclear regulation, nuclear security, and radiological public health and safety), and provides the NRC with State information on these issues. I have included with this letter an NRC brochure – NUREG/BR-0520, "State Programs at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission" (Enclosure 1) – that describes some of the NRC's interactions with States, including the SLO Program. "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission State Liaison Officer Program" (Enclosure 2), describes the program in greater detail, including the responsibilities of the SLO.

Also enclosed, you will find an NRC procedure – Management Directive 5.2, "Cooperation with States at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants and Other Nuclear Production or Utilization Facilities" (Enclosure 3). This management directive contains the NRC's policy on cooperation with States and more detailed information about the SLO program and responsibilities. I encourage you to review and refresh your memory of this document.

Communications

Mr. John Pelchat and Mr. Edwin Lea, our Regional SLOs in the NRC Region II office, located in Atlanta, Georgia, will continue to be your primary contacts for routine communications. You will continue to receive copies of NRC documents and reports on a regular basis to keep you informed of matters that are of interest to your State. In addition, I encourage you to visit the NRC's Web site at www.nrc.gov, where you will find information about the agency's mission and programs. The "Stay Connected" section (located on the left side of the main page) contains links to multiple social media tools that can help you stay informed of NRC-related news. One of these features, "RSS feeds," allows you to subscribe to a variety of agency updates and may be particularly useful. Also, the NRC conducts a National State Liaison Officer Conference, usually every 2-3 years, and regional meetings as needed, to discuss matters of mutual regulatory interest. Thank you for Virginia's attendance at our past conferences.

Handling of Sensitive Information

The SLO serves as the primary individual in the State who is responsible for handling sensitive information, including Safeguards Information (SGI), from the NRC. The SLO is responsible for ensuring that recipients of such information have a "need-to-know" and for implementing the appropriate measures for storing and protecting the information from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 73.21. Please find enclosed NRC Regulatory Guide 5.79, "Protection of Safeguards Information" (Enclosure 4). This document describes a method that the NRC considers acceptable for use in establishing an information protection system and implementing the specific requirements for the protection of SGI.

In closing, the NRC's cooperative relationships with States are essential to accomplishing the agency's mission of protecting public health and safety; providing for common defense and security; and protecting the environment. We hope that this relationship will be beneficial for both the Commonwealth of Virginia and the NRC. Your role in continuing this vital relationship is important. We look forward to our continued work with you.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Pelchat at (404) 997-4427 or Mr. Lea at (404) 997-4567. In the event of their unavailability, please do not hesitate to call me at the NRC Headquarters at (301) 415-3340, or Ms. Sarah Lopas of my staff at (301) 415-6360, concerning any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

/RA/CEinberg for

Andrea L. Kock, Acting Director
Division of Materials Safety, Security, State,
and Tribal Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:
1. NUREG/BR-0520, "State Programs at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission"
2. "U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission State Liaison Officer Program"
3. Management Directive 5.2, "Cooperation with States at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants and Other Nuclear Production or Utilization Facilities"
4. Regulatory Guide 5.79, "Protection of Safeguards Information"

cc: J. Pelchat, RII (w/o Enclosures)
E. Lea, RII (w/o Enclosures)

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NAME	SLopas	(via E-mail)	Via e-mail CEinberg	AKock
DATE	6/22/18	6/22/18	6/22/18	6/28/18

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