

CHAIRMAN

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 3, 1999

The Honorable Don Siegelman Governor of Alabama Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Siegelman:

In "s, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) adopted a recommendation of State orga. ations, including the National Governors' Association, that we request each State to appoint a single person to act as liaison to NRC to improve 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 regulatory health and safety matters as appropriate to their interests and responsibilities; and to provide NRC with answers to questions posed to the States on particular issues.

I am writing to request Alabama's continued participation in the NRC's State Liaison Officer program. The individual you select can be someone from the State who can communicate effectively with other State agencies on nuclear issues.

Former Governor James appointed Kirksey E. Whatley, Director of the Office of Radiation Control in the Alabama Department of Public Health, as Alabama's State Liaison Officer. The NRC will continue to work with Mr. Whatley unless you inform us of a new choice. We will keep you informed of major NRC programs and activities through Mr. Whatley. At the same time, we will maintain our ties to those State agencies with whom we have established relationships for specific issues.

If you or your staff have any questions or wish additional information, please contact Paul H. Lohaus, Director, Office of State Programs, at 301-415-2326 or Robert Trojanowski, our Region II State Liaison Officer, at 404-562-4427.

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

Sincerely.

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Shirley Ann Jackson

cc: Kirksey E. Whatley

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