

February 1, 2001

The Honorable Sila M. Calderón
Governor of Puerto Rico
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901

Dear Governor Calderón:

In 1976, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) adopted a recommendation from several State organizations, including the National Governors' Association, that we request each State and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico 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 Rossello appointed Hector Russe, Chairman, Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board, as Puerto Rico's Liaison Officer. The NRC will continue to work with Mr. Russe, and, unless you choose a new State Liaison Officer, we will keep you informed of our programs and activities through Mr. Russe. At the same time, we will maintain our ties with various individuals in agencies with whom we have established relationships for specific issues.

The Commission looks forward to the continued participation by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico 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 Robert Trojanowski, our Region II State Liaison Officer, at 404-562-4427.

I am looking forward to continuing an excellent working relationship with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard A. Meserve

cc: Hector Russe