

January 27, 1997

The Honorable Lincoln Almond
Governor of Rhode Island
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Governor Almond:

I am writing to confirm the continued participation of the State of Rhode Island in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) State Liaison Officer program. It is my understanding that the most recent State Liaison Officer, Richard A. Bouchard, Radiological Protection Officer of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency, has retired. I trust that you share the Commission's belief in the value of this program and will advise us of your new appointee at an early date.

In 1976, the NRC adopted a recommendation of State organizations, including the National Governors' Association, that we request each State 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.

The individual you select to perform this function should be someone from your staff who can communicate effectively with other State agencies on issues related to the regulation of radioactive material. We will keep you informed of our programs and activities through this individual. At the same time, we will maintain our ties to those State agencies with whom we have established relationships for specific issues.

I look forward to continued participation by Rhode Island in the NRC's State Liaison Officer program. If you or your staff have any questions or wish additional information, please contact Richard L. Bangart, Director of NRC's Office of State Programs in Headquarters at 301-415-3340 or David Chawaga, our Region I State Liaison Officer in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, at 610-337-5246.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Shirley Ann Jackson

Distribution:

DIR RF DCD (SP01)
EDO RF RBangart SECY PDR (YES)
SDroggitis Rhode Island File
HThompson SLO General DChawaga PLOhaus
*see previous concurrence

OFC	OSP	OSP:DD	OSP:D	EDO	OCM
NME	SDroggitis:gd	PLohaus	RBangart	HLThompson	SJackson
DTE	01/10/97*	01/10/97*	01/13/97	01/14/97	01/27/97

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Providence, Rhode Island 02903

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DTE	01/10/97	01/10/97	01/ /97	01/ /97	01/ /97

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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