



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

February 28, 2022

Shawn G. Talmadge  
State Coordinator of Emergency Management  
Virginia Department of Emergency Management  
9711 Farrar Court, Suite 200  
North Chesterfield, VA 23236-3713

**SUBJECT: STATE LIAISON OFFICER APPOINTMENT**

Dear Mr. Talmadge:

I am pleased to learn of your 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 provide some general information 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 this document.

Communications

Mr. John Pelchat, our Senior Regional Government Liaison Officer in the NRC Region II office, located in Atlanta, Georgia, will be your primary contact 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](http://www.nrc.gov), where you will find information about the agency's mission and programs. The "Stay Connected" section 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. Our next scheduled conference is planned for March 22-24, 2022.

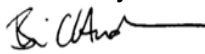
#### Handling of Sensitive Information

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, I want to emphasize that 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. John Pelchat at (404) 997-4427 or [john.pelchat@nrc.gov](mailto:john.pelchat@nrc.gov). In the event of his unavailability, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jeffery Lynch of my staff at (301) 415-5041 or [jeffery.lynch@nrc.gov](mailto:jeffery.lynch@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,



Signed by Anderson, Brian  
on 02/28/22

Brian Anderson, Branch Chief  
State Agreement and Liaison Programs Branch  
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 (w/o Enclosures)

SLO Welcome Letter to Shawn Talmadge new SLO in Virginia DATE February 28, 2022

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**\* via email**

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NAME	JPelchat <i>JP</i>	JLynch <i>JL</i>	BAnderson <i>BA</i>	
DATE	Feb 24, 2022	Feb 24, 2022	Feb 28, 2022	

***OFFICIAL RECORD COPY***