



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Martin L. Kent
Chief of Staff

March 27, 2012

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The Honorable Onzlee D. Ware
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The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
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The Honorable Terry G. Kilgore
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The Honorable Donald W. Merricks
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The Honorable John C. Watkins
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The Honorable Israel D. O'Quinn
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The Honorable Phillip P. Puckett
P.O. Box 924
Tazewell, Virginia 24651-0924

The Honorable Frank W. Wagner
P.O. Box 68008
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23471

Dear Members of the Uranium Subcommittee of the Coal and Energy Commission:

On March 8, 2012, I sent you a letter clarifying and correcting various mischaracterizations of the work of the Governor's Uranium Working Group (UWG) conveyed by the media. As I detailed then, we have gone to great lengths not only to provide opportunities for public comment and participation, but also to incorporate those comments and questions into the interim and final work product of the UWG. With your agreement, the UWG will report its progress and receive input from the public at four open meetings of the Uranium Subcommittee of the Coal and Energy Commission on which you serve. The first meeting was held earlier this month in Richmond, and I look forward to joining you in Chatham on June 18th for the next meeting of your commission.

As you are aware, the UWG is already capable of receiving comments and concerns 24 hours a day from individual members of the public and organized stakeholders through the working group's website (www.uwg.vi.virginia.gov). At one of your member's request, we have also begun to post answers or responses to those public comments and will have a fully-implemented live posting functionality incorporated into the site very soon. At each of the

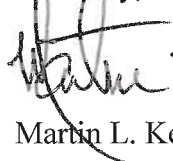
upcoming public meetings, summaries of the comments received, either via the website or through traditional mail, will be presented by the working group along with the specific way the issues raised are being considered and incorporated into the work of the scientists and technical staff charged with this important work.

As members of the Uranium Subcommittee, you are the ultimate recipients of the work of the UWG, once it has been communicated to you by the Governor. We intend the final product of the UWG to assist you with better determining whether uranium mining and milling can be conducted safely in the Commonwealth by answering some of the questions posed, but ultimately not addressed, by the National Academies of Science's 2011 report.

Because you are the body charged with deciding whether or not to lift the moratorium, it is imperative that you receive all of the information you require through a process that affords you the opportunity to make a decision founded on a scientific and factual analysis of the risks and benefits of uranium mining and milling in Virginia. For that reason, I ask that you provide us with any specific questions, concerns, or recommendations you have with regard to the UWG reporting process or opportunities for public comment and participation by Friday, April 6. There is no need to provide additional comments or direction by that date if you agree with the course of action already outlined. Please send your recommendations on the process to the attention of Maureen Matsen, the Governor's Senior Advisor on Energy, at the address provided above. We are also planning to solicit process-related input from the various stakeholder groups in the very near term.

As always, thank you for your service to the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia and specifically for undertaking this difficult, but important, work. Again, I look forward to seeing you in Chatham on June 18 and am available at all times should you have questions or concerns relative to this or any matter.

Sincerely,



Martin L. Kent

MLK/kfs

cc: Maureen Matsen
Deputy Secretary