November 3, 2014

Mr. Michael Mariotte
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
6930 Carroll Avenue, Suite 340
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Dear Michael,

The Union of Concerned Scientists enthusiastically joins with other public interest organizations to applaud your nearly three decades of exemplary work on nuclear power issues. American democracy works best when it is not treated like a spectator sport, and your efforts have routinely demonstrated the benefits of engaging local, state and federal policymakers as well as the general public.

The many successes accomplished during your leadership at NIRS would by themselves justify the Lifetime Achievement Award you richly deserve. But your enduring legacy is the large and growing network of citizens nationwide who NIRS has educated and inspired to pay close attention to nuclear power plants in their communities. Your work has established a strong foundation for many more successes in the future.

Our nuclear safety team has worked with you and NIRS for a long time. That partnership has undoubtedly strengthened our efforts to improve nuclear power safety and security, and we appreciate your invaluable and unflagging assistance, dedication and passion.

Finally, we would be remiss if we didn’t mention your contribution to the Washington, D.C., music scene as the drummer for Tru Fax and the Insaniacs. You are living proof that people who work on issues like nuclear power don’t have to be boring.

Sincerely,

Ken Kimmell
President

Dave Lochbaum
Director, Nuclear Safety Project

Ed Lyman
Senior Scientist

Elliott Negin
Senior Writer