

February 2021

**A message from H.E. Christer Viktorsson, Director-General of the UAE's Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) in regards to COVID19 Pandemic**

Since March 2020 when the World Health Organization (WHO) declared Coronavirus (Covid-19) as a global pandemic, the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR) has thoroughly implemented the UAE government direction and WHO's advice to ensure the safety of its staff, licensees and public as well as effectively maintained its regulatory mission in the country.

FANR resumed work from its headquarters in August 2020. Following the guidance from the Federal Authority for Government human Resources (FAHR), FANR implemented the phased return of staff ensuring a 100% work from the office. In addition, work in FANR's Dubai office resumed to provide services to licensees.

We formed last year the "New Normal and Afterward Planning Team" (The Team) to develop, manage, and monitor the planning for the recovery stage and afterward. This is to ensure full preparedness against future threats and risks associated with any future pandemic or similar situations.

With our operational activities and staff returning in full capacity, we continue to deliver our regulatory oversight to Barakah Nuclear Power Plant and to all our other licensees, while adhering to the government measures and directions for the prevention of the COVID19 virus and ensuring the safety of our employees, licensees and public. Our labs, both The Secondary Standards Dosimetry Laboratory (SSDL) and Environmental Lab, are operational with 100% return of their staff. Also, our online E-licensing services and other digital platform are providing end to end services to all our licensees, ensuring smooth transactions while maintaining the safety measures for our employees and the licensees.

FANR acknowledges the great efforts of the UAE first line of defense for their courageous and tremendous efforts in protecting us and our families, and also salute the efforts of the UAE leadership in providing the necessary care and support to the people living in this great nation.

Be safe and healthy

Sincerely,

Christer Viktorsson

Director-General of the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR)