



NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor

Jerome M. Hauer, Ph.D., MHS, Commissioner

June 23, 2014

Timothy M. Kennedy
New York State Senator
63rd District
2239 South Park Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14220

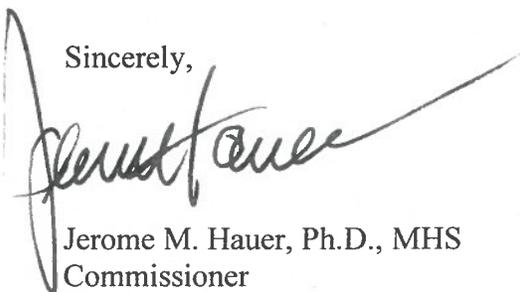
Dear Senator Kennedy:

Thank you for your letter dated May 12, 2014 regarding our recent drill at the Port of Albany concerning a simulated train (tanker) derailment and a subsequent crude oil spill. As you know this has become a real concern for both the Governor and myself after several recent accidents around the country and in Canada. We are both keenly aware of the danger that exists along the rail corridor throughout New York State.

As a result I've tasked both my Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) and Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to work with Niagara and Erie Counties to schedule the same ignitable liquids training program as was done in Albany. We will be offering this training drill to Federal, State and Local first responders in Western New York in July.

Thank you for your interest in this very real danger. I look forward to working with you and your office on this matter as well as any other concerns you may have in regards to the safety and wellbeing of the public at large. Please feel free to contact me anytime if I can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Jerome M. Hauer, Ph.D., MHS
Commissioner