



April 1, 2020

Congress 2020 Postponement

Dear INLA Members,

I am writing to inform you that in view of the ongoing global pandemic, we are postponing Congress 2020 to next year. The implications of the pandemic spread, coupled with the uncertainty with which it continues to impact the globe, has left the INLA-US Chapter with no practical choice but to postpone the Congress. The impacts on travel restrictions, the broad reaching financial and policy impacts on INLA members and member organizations, and the impossibility of predicting the resolution path of the pandemic or its timing preclude prudent planning options.

Initial discussions with Patrick Reyners, INLA Secretary General, have been supportive of this plan.

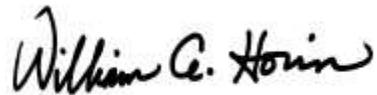
We will be working with the hotel and other involved organizations to move the Congress to a point in calendar year 2021. Very initial discussions among the INLA-US Chapter board members have focused on a similar time of year in 2021 as was planned for the 2020 Congress. Discussions will of course take place with the INLA Board as a whole.

The evolution of this situation has been sudden, dramatic and continues to be globally expanding. The INLA Board meeting in Paris was impacted by the access restrictions imposed the day before the meeting on visitors coming from the then affected countries, thus preventing Board Member Professor Nomura who was already in Paris from attending the meeting. While some uncertainties remained, the cancellation of the INLA United Kingdom meeting less than 2 weeks later in view of speaker cancellations, resulting from growing travel restrictions, provided firm evidence of the potential broader impact. Providing additional certainty of the likely full nature of the emerging situation was the WHO declaration of the international pandemic, the day following the original UK meeting date. That was a conclusive international data point. No data since then has presented any assurance of timely resolution to enable Congress 2020 to proceed. The United States has already extended its original national restrictions twice, without any evidence yet of impact reversal. Planning at operating nuclear power plants globally already includes personnel restriction implications.

We wish to thank all of the contributors who submitted proposals for speaking and for their abstracts. The topics covered, and the quality of the abstracts, were tremendous. We thank each of the Working Groups for their support and contributions. And we thank the Board for its consideration. We fully intend to include the current abstracts in our library for Congress 2021. We suspect there may be some additional topics for that Congress not originally anticipated when 2020 began.

Thank you for your understanding.

Stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William A. Horin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William A. Horin
President, International Nuclear Law Association