



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV
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February 15, 2001

Ray D. Paris, Manager
Radiation Protection Services
Oregon State Health Division
Department of Human Resources
P.O. Box 14450
Portland, OR 97214-0450

Dear Mr. Paris:

A periodic meeting with Oregon was held on January 25, 2001. The purpose of this meeting was to review and discuss the status of Oregon's Agreement State Program. The NRC was represented by Vivian Campbell and myself from NRC's Region IV office, and Thomas O'Brien from the NRC's Office of State and Tribal Programs.

I have completed and enclosed a general meeting summary, including any specific actions that will be taken as a result of the meeting.

If you feel that our conclusions do not accurately summarize the meeting discussion, or have any additional remarks about the meeting in general, please contact me at (817) 860-8143 or e-mail mlm1@nrc.gov to discuss your concerns.

Sincerely,

/RA/

M. Linda McLean
Regional State Agreements Officer

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl

Paul Lohaus, Director, OSTP

Ray D. Paris

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AGREEMENT STATE PERIODIC MEETING SUMMARY FOR OREGON
DATE OF MEETING: January 25, 2001

ATTENDEES:

NRC

M. Linda McLean, Regional State Agreements Officer, Region IV
Vivian H. Campbell, Regional State Agreements Officer, Region IV
Thomas O'Brien, Agreement State Project Officer, OSTP

State of Oregon

Ray D. Paris, Radiation Protection Services Manager
Terry D. Lindsey, Radioactive Materials Program Manager
Edwin L. Wright
Sylvia Martin
Kevin Siebert

DISCUSSION:

The following is a summary of the meeting held in Portland, Oregon, on January 25, 2001, between representatives of the NRC and the State of Oregon. During the meeting, the topics suggested in a letter dated November 21, 2000, from Mrs. McLean to Mr. Paris were discussed. The discussion pertaining to each topic is summarized below.

1. Action on Previous IMPEP Review Findings

The previous Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) review was conducted during the period August 10-13, 1998, with the findings discussed in a meeting between the State and the IMPEP Management Review Board (MRB) on October 13, 1998. The results were issued in a final report dated October 28, 1998. At that time the MRB found that the Oregon radiation control program was adequate to protect public health and safety and compatible with NRC's program. The recommendations made in the final report are listed below followed by a summary of the State's actions in response to each recommendation.

All IMPEP review findings were recommended for closure during the December 3, 1999, periodic meeting.

2. Strengths and Weaknesses of the Program

Strengths

The Oregon State Health Division (the Division) has made significant improvements in their information technology program via development of a database that allows them to manage their radioactive materials program. The database is approximately 95% complete and has already demonstrated its usefulness as a time saving management tool. The Division continues to complete the database and hopes to maintain the IT staff to improve and maintain the database.

The Division has no licensing backlog. Ninety percent of license actions are completed within 45 days.

The Division has well qualified staff despite some turn-over.

Weaknesses

The Division has about 175 inspections due by the end of the calendar year. Currently 67 inspections are overdue by NRC criteria. The Division has scheduled the overdue inspections and said that they will be able to complete all inspections this year.

3. State Feedback on NRC's Program

The following topics were discussed: the tedious disposal process for radioactive sources, (the Division has sources that they would like to dispose of); the contamination limits for free release; and the sealed source and device (SS&D) registry reviews (the Division asked if they could review and comment on approvals for Oregon manufacturers of SS&D's).

4. Recent or Pending State Program Changes

There are no pending State program changes. The budget is good through 2003. The Division has adequate funding for training and instrumentation. One emergency preparedness staff member recently retired. License renewals for priorities 3-7 licenses have been extended to 10 years. Priorities 1-2 remained at a 5-year frequency. The Division has 475 licensees.

5. NRC Program or Policy Changes That Could Impact Agreement States

The All Agreement State letter STP-00-083 on the license termination rule and event reporting was discussed. The Division has responded to both letters.

A copy of the Region IV organization was provided to the Division. State assignments between the Regional State Agreements Officers (RSAO) and the status of the National Materials Program were discussed.

6. Internal Program Audits or Self Assessments

With the start of the new database, all programs have been audited for quality assurance. Multi-tiered peer reviews is performed on all licensing actions. Management signs all licenses.

7. Status of Allegations Referred by NRC to the State

No allegations have been referred by NRC to the Division during the period December 1999 - January 25, 2001.

8. Compatibility of Oregon Rules and Regulations

Management made the decision to focus resources on reconfiguring and updating their database system in lieu of adopting regulations required for compatibility purposes. The Division is currently using legally binding license conditions or enforcement bulletins until the rules are promulgated. Now that their database system is near completion, management stated that regulation development and adoption is a high priority. None of the regulations due for adoption since 1996 have been promulgated by the Division. They intend to submit the rule changes to the NRC by Fall of 2001 for review and adopt the rules by the end of 2001.

9. Nuclear Material Events Database (NMED)

The Division is currently not using the NMED database system for submitting events. It is not compatible with their database system. However, they have been reporting all reportable events monthly to INEEL or to NRC's Operation Center when required.

10. Action Items

The following actions items were developed during the meeting:

- ▶ The Division asked if they could review and comment on SS&D approvals for Oregon manufacturers. The Agreement State Project Officer (ASPO) will discuss this request with NMSS.
- ▶ The Division requested a copy of the ACCESS file on Oregon's Regulatory Assessment Tracking system. The ASPO will provide a copy if possible.
- ▶ The Division requested information on what is required by NRC's Technical Training Center to hold a course in Oregon. The information will be forwarded to the Division by the RSAO.
- ▶ The Division requested information on equivalent radiography training and also requested copies of NRC's technical training manuals. The ASPO will provide this information to the Division if available.

11. Schedule for next IMPEP Review

The next IMPEP is scheduled for fiscal year 2002