



STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Donald E. Williamson, MD
State Health Officer

May 16, 2006

Sheri Minnick
Regional State Agreements Officer
Division of Nuclear Material Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

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Dear Ms. Minnick:

On behalf of Donald E. Williamson, M.D., State Health Officer, I am responding to your letter of April 28, 2006, regarding the draft IMPEP report of your review of the Alabama Agreement State Program during the dates April 3-7, 2006.

I believe, and the staff believes also, that the responsibility for maintaining a good radiation safety program resides with, and depends upon, each and every staff member. That is the philosophy on which the day-to-day activity of this program is based. Your findings are the result of the commitment to excellence that indwells the staff of this office and to the character and integrity of the staff members. David Turberville, David Walter, Jim McNees, Myron Riley, Kevin Hicks, Cason Coen, Neil Maryland, and the administrative staff share in the good report that you issued. It is also a testimony to the many years of training and support and encouragement offered by numerous staff members of NRC.

I offer no comments on your draft report except that I am very pleased that your findings are satisfactory with no recommendations for improvement. This finding is identical to the previous IMPEP finding in April 2002 and represents eight years of dedicated work by the staff of this office.

I want to thank each member of the IMPEP review team for the professionalism and courtesy displayed by each one during the review, and especially to you for the manner in which you conducted the review.

If you have any questions regarding my comments, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Kirksey E. Whatley, Director
Office of Radiation Control