



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION IV  
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD.  
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

November 19, 2015

Mr. Charles Maguire  
Director  
Radiation Materials Division, MC 233  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P. O. Box 13087  
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Mr. Maguire:

In order to help the Agreement States and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) remain knowledgeable of each other's program and to initiate planning for the next Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) review, the NRC conducts one-day periodic meetings with Agreement States between IMPEP reviews.

In accordance with the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) Procedure SA-116, "Periodic Meetings between IMPEP Reviews," and after previous coordination with you, we have scheduled the periodic meeting for Thursday, February 11, 2016. The meeting will be held at your offices in Austin, Texas. In addition to myself, staff and management from NMSS and NRC's Region IV office may also attend the meeting.

Based on our previous discussions, the likely topics for discussion at the meeting are listed on the enclosed agenda. If there are any additional specific topics you would like to cover, or if you would like to focus on a specific area, please let me know. If you have any questions, please call me at 817-200-1116, or via e-mail at [Binesh.Tharakan@nrc.gov](mailto:Binesh.Tharakan@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Binesh K. Tharakan, CHP  
Regional State Agreements Officer  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Enclosure:  
Agenda for Periodic Meeting  
with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Binesh K. Tharakan, CHP  
Regional State Agreements Officer  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc: Kelly Cook, Director  
Critical Infrastructure Division, MC-177  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P. O. Box 13087  
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Enclosure:  
Agenda for Periodic Meeting  
with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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**Agenda for Periodic Meeting with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
February 11, 2016**

Topic areas for discussion within the Low-Level Radioactive Waste (LLRW) and Uranium Recovery (UR) Programs may include:

1. Program challenges.
2. Program reorganizations:
  - a. Discuss any changes to the program organization, including program/staff relocations and new appointments.
3. Changes in program budget/funding.
4. Feedback on the NRC's program.
5. Status of the State's program, including:
  - a. LLRW/UR Technical Staffing and Training (2014 IMPEP Satisfactory)
    - 1) The review team recommends that the Commission develop and implement a strategy to address staffing in the LLRW and uranium recovery inspection programs in order to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Program.
    - 2) Number of staff in the program and status of their training and qualifications.
    - 3) Any program vacancies.
    - 4) Staff turnover since the last IMPEP review.
    - 5) Adequacy of FTEs for the materials program.
    - 6) Status of implementation of IMC 1248
  - b. LLRW/UR Status of the Inspection Program (2014 IMPEP Satisfactory)
    - 1) Number of inspection performed overdue since the last IMPEP review.
    - 2) Number of inspections currently overdue.
    - 3) Number of initial inspections completed on time and overdue since the last IMPEP review.
  - c. LLRW/UR Technical Quality of Inspections (2014 IMPEP Satisfactory)
    - 1) 2014 Recommendation: The review team recommends that the Compliance Team, in coordination with the Radioactive Materials Section, develop detailed inspection procedures for LLRW inspections to provide feedback to the LLRW program and enhance the inspection program.
    - 2) 2014 Recommendation: The review team recommends that the Compliance Team, in coordination with the UIC Permits Section and

the Uranium Section, develop detailed inspection procedures for uranium recovery inspections to provide feedback to the uranium recovery program and enhance the inspection program.

- 3) Status of inspector accompaniments.
- 4) Management review process
- 5) Significant inspection activities/challenges

d. LLRW/UR Technical Quality of Licensing (2014 IMPEP Satisfactory)

- 1) Number of licensing actions and types performed since the last IMPEP review.

e. LLRW/UR Technical Quality of Incidents and Allegations (2014 IMPEP Satisfactory)

- 1) 2014 Recommendation: The review team recommends that the State strengthen its incident response program by developing guidance and providing training to the staff on evaluating and responding to reported medical events.
- 2) Status of allegations and concerns referred by the NRC for action.
- 3) Significant events and generic implications.
- 4) Event reporting, including follow-up and closure information in NMED.

f. LLRW/UR Compatibility Requirements (2014 IMPEP Satisfactory)

- 1) Regulations
- 2) Discuss status of State's regulations and actions to keep regulations up to date, including the use of legally binding requirements.
  - i. Part 37 adoption
  - ii. Legislative changes affecting the program.

6. Information Exchange:

- a. Current State initiatives
- b. Current NRC initiatives

7. Additional Topics

8. Next Steps/Meeting Summary/Q&A