



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

November 19, 2015

Mr. Richard A. Ratliff, P.E., L.M.P.
Radiation Control Program Director
Division for Regulatory Services
Texas Dept. of State Health Services
P.O. Box 149347-Mail Code 2835
Austin, TX 78714-9347

Dear Mr. Ratliff:

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 Wednesday, February 10, 2016. The meeting will be held at the Radiation Control Program 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.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Enclosure:
Agenda for Periodic Meeting
with Texas Department of State Health Services

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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 Department of State Health Services

DISTRIBUTION:

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**Agenda for Periodic Meeting with Texas Department of State Health Services
February 10, 2016**

Topic areas for discussion during the meeting may include:

1. Program challenges.
2. Program reorganizations:

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. Technical Staffing and Training (2014 IMPEP Rating: Satisfactory)
 - i) Number of staff in the program and status of their training and qualifications.
 - ii) Any program vacancies.
 - iii) Staff turnover since the last IMPEP review.
 - iv) Adequacy of FTEs for the materials program.
 - v) Status of implementation of IMC 1248
 - b. Status of the Materials Inspection Program (2014 IMPEP Rating: Satisfactory)
 - i) Number of inspection performed overdue since the last IMPEP review.
 - ii) Number of inspections currently overdue.
 - iii) Number of initial inspections completed on time and overdue since the last IMPEP review.
 - iv) Status of reciprocity inspections since the last IMPEP.
 - c. Technical Quality of Inspections (2014 IMPEP Rating: Satisfactory)
 - i) Status of inspector accompaniments.
 - ii) Management review process
 - iii) Significant inspection activities/challenges
 - d. Technical Quality of Licensing (2014 IMPEP Rating: Satisfactory)
 - i) Number of licensing actions and types performed since the last IMPEP review.
 - ii) Large, complicated, or unusual authorizations for use of radioactive materials.

- e. Technical Quality of Incidents and Allegations (2014 IMPEP Rating: Satisfactory)
 - i) Status of allegations and concerns referred by the NRC for action.
 - ii) Significant events and generic implications.
 - iii) Event reporting, including follow-up and closure information in NMED.
- f. Compatibility Requirements (2014 IMPEP Rating: Satisfactory)
 - i) Regulations
 - a. Discussion of State's regulatory process
 - b. Discuss status of State's regulations and actions to keep regulations up to date, including the use of legally binding requirements.
 - c. Part 37 adoption status
 - ii) Legislative changes affecting the program.
- 6. Information Exchange:
 - i) Current State initiatives
 - ii) Current NRC initiatives
 - iii) Emerging Technologies
 - iv) State's mechanisms to evaluate performance
- 7. Additional Topics
- 8. Next Steps/Meeting Summary/Q&A