



STATE OF IOWA

THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

SALLY J. PEDERSON
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
JANE COLACECCHI, ACTING DIRECTOR

January 14, 2003

Paul Lohaus, Director
Office of State and Tribal Programs
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
1155 Rockville Pike, 3rd Floor
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Lohaus:

SUBJECT: NRC DRAFT OPTIONS FOR PERIODIC MEETING PROCEDURES (STP-03-002)

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) is of the opinion that a combination of the two proposed options for periodic meetings would be the ideal situation. Self-audits and limited review should elevate the performance of State Programs.

The use of self-audits is always appropriate for any program to make sure all key issues of the program are being addressed and possibly uncover any deficiencies within the program. That being said, an audit is only as revealing as the auditor decides it will be. The use of a limited review of State records during a Periodic Meeting could be used to enhance the State's audit program. The aspect of "fresh eyes" reviewing any program can only enhance the performance of that program.

Regarding the meeting length, the complexity of each Program would be the determining factor, but IDPH feels that a minimum of an eight-hour day should be spent with each Program.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Nancy A. Farrington at (515) 725-0310 or me.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Flater, Chief
Bureau of Radiological Health
(515) 281-3478

Enclosure

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nrccommentPM

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