

CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY WITH NEW HAMPSHIRE

DATE OF CALL: January 25, 2005

ATTENDEES:

Paul Lohaus, STP
Sheri Minnick, Region I
Kevin Hsueh, STP
Alice Bruning, NH
Dennis O'Dowd, NH

BACKGROUND:

Subsequent to the June 2004 New Hampshire IMPEP, the Management Review Board requested bimonthly conference calls be conducted between the appropriate New Hampshire and NRC staffs to discuss the State's performance with regard to technical staffing and training and promulgation of regulations. This is the second conference call since the IMPEP review.

As a result of the November 23, 2004 conference call, a letter was sent to New Hampshire on December 9, 2004 requesting that the program update their Program Improvement Plan to include specific success metrics for each overdue regulation. On January 5, 2005, Ms. Bruning submitted a letter which included milestones for adopting regulations required for compatibility. During the conference call, Mr. Lohaus expressed concern that there were no specific internal milestones listed and that the deadline for completing the draft regulations and submitting them to the Administrative Rules Unit (ARU) was rapidly approaching (February 4, 2005). Ms. Bruning indicated that New Hampshire can include specific internal milestones within the Bureau. She indicated that she fully expects to make the February 4, 2005 deadline for getting the drafted rules to the ARU.

Ms. Bruning provided a Summary Letter dated January 20, 2005, that summarized the program progress achieved since the IMPEP review and included a Program Improvement Plan, and a January 2005 Status Report on NRC regulations required for compatibility.

SUMMARY LETTER, PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND STATUS REPORT DISCUSSIONS:

Mr. O'Dowd reviewed the status of technical staffing and training. The Bureau is focusing on getting two individuals trained to independently perform inspections. Debanond Chakraborty and Rick D'Alarcao accompanied Maine on inspections of a medical facility licensee and a mobile medical service licensee. Additional accompaniments are planned within a month. In addition, Asish Banerjee is expected to have additional training by the end of January in the area of sealed source and device reviews. The Bureau continues to work with the Radiation Control Programs of Maine and Massachusetts in order to obtain licensing experience and inspection accompaniments needed for these individuals.

Mr. O'Dowd explained that they are still looking for applicants to fill the vacant Radiological Health Administrator position. The program has made an offer to a viable candidate and is awaiting a response. The position remains unfilled at this time.

Since the last conference call, the Bureau has incorporated by license conditions the Resolution of Airborne Effluents of Radioactive Materials ("Constraint Rule") in 10 CFR 20. Mr. O'Dowd will submit the necessary paperwork to the NRC for review this week. Work continues on all other regulations. Mr. Hsueh pointed out that the NRC amendments for Revision of the Skin Dose Limit and Medical Use of Byproduct Material are due for adoption by the Agreement States in the Spring of 2005 and should be adopted along with the overdue regulations before the next IMPEP. The Bureau expects to have all overdue regulations completed within the next six months.

NEXT CALL:

The next call is scheduled for March 22, 2005 at 1:30 p.m.