

April 28, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: Samuel J. Collins  
Regional Administrator, Region I

FROM: Charles Cox, Team Leader **/RA/**  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: DRAFT INTEGRATED MATERIALS PERFORMANCE EVALUATION  
PROGRAM REPORT

On April 4-8, 2005, a team of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Agreement State staff conducted an Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) assessment of Region I's nuclear materials programs at the Region I office. The review team's recommendations were discussed with James T. Wiggins, Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 1, and your staff on April 8, 2005. The review team's proposed recommendation is that Region I's materials program be found adequate to protect public health and safety. Attached for your review is the draft IMPEP report which documents the results of the review.

The NRC conducts periodic reviews of the Regions' nuclear materials programs to ensure that public health and safety are adequately protected from the hazards associated with the use of radioactive materials. The process, titled IMPEP, employs a team of NRC and Agreement State staff to assess both Agreement State and NRC Regional Office radioactive materials licensing and inspection programs. All reviews use common criteria in the assessment and place primary emphasis on performance. One additional area has been identified as non-common performance indicator and is also addressed in the assessment. The final determination of adequacy of each regional program, based on the review team's report, will be made by a Management Review Board (MRB) composed of NRC managers and an Agreement State program manager who serves as a liaison to the MRB.

In accordance with procedures for implementation of IMPEP, we are providing you with a copy of the draft team report for review prior to submitting the report to the MRB. We welcome your comments on the draft report. If possible, we request comments within four weeks from your receipt of this letter. This schedule will permit the issuance of the final report in a timely manner that will be responsive to your needs.

The team will review the response, make any necessary changes to the report and issue it to the MRB as a proposed final report. Our preliminary scheduling places the Region I MRB meeting During the week of June 20, 2005. We will coordinate with you to establish the date for the MRB review of the Region I report. Note that video conferencing is an option if it is more convenient for you and your staff to participate through this medium.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed report, please contact me at (301) 415-6755.

Attachment:  
Draft IMPEP Report

cc: George Pangburn, RI, DNMS

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