



Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

Office of Executive Director ♦ 205 Capital Avenue ♦ Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: 502/227-4543 ♦ Fax: 502/227-7862 ♦ Web Site: www.crcpd.org
Central E-mail: staff@crcpd.org

June 22, 2005

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<debra.mcbaugh@
doh.wa.gov>
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Paul H. Lohaus, Director
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
State and Tribal Programs
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Lohaus:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc. (CRCPD), I am writing to you to discuss the next steps in implementing the proposed criteria and process for evaluating requests from states and independent organizations seeking recognition of industrial radiographer certification programs.

As part of the National Materials Program (NMP) Pilot Project, the CRCPD's G-34 committee (comprised of individuals from states, industry, and the NRC who have been involved in certification activities or issues in their organizations) proposed criteria and a process for evaluating requests from states and independent organizations seeking recognition of industrial radiographer certification programs. In the G-34 committee's report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the committee recommended that "...an oversight committee, with specific responsibilities and authorities to administer a national program, be formally designated and supported under the NMP 'alliance' concept."

The NRC Staff Requirements Memo dated January 5, 2005 stated that "...the pilot programs demonstrated that the Agreement States and NRC could make collaborative decisions that address regulatory issues in the NMP." It went on to say, "However, the products developed to date were not fully implemented or tested. Before initiating new projects, the staff should evaluate the effectiveness of implementing the products produced under these pilot programs and should make appropriate corrections where warranted."

Minnesota recently requested a review and acceptance of its program to certify industrial radiographers. A review of the Minnesota program using the proposed criteria and process would provide CRCPD's G-34 committee with an opportunity to evaluate them using an actual program. The review of the Minnesota program would allow the G-34 committee to fine-tune the products it created during its NMP involvement in order to set the stage for future oversight activities.

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RIDS: SP02

A Partnership Dedicated to Radiation Protection

SISP Review Complete

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Paul H. Lohaus
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This project will use the available expertise of the G-34 committee, resulting in time and resource savings, while verifying a unified, consistent, repeatable approach to recognition of an industrial radiographer certification process. The CRCPD appreciates the opportunity to work collegially with the NRC on this worthwhile project and requests the NRC's continuing support in establishing a national industrial radiographer certification program under the NMP.

To discuss the details and next steps of the project or any other questions, please contact Thomas Cardwell, CRCPD General Council Chairperson, at phone number (512) 834-6688 or me at phone number (360) 236-3251.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DMC', is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Debra McBaugh, Chairperson
Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors, Inc.

cc: CRCPD Board of Directors