

January 13, 2010

Carlos Romero, Director
Environmental Health Division
New Mexico Environment Department
525 Camino de Los Marquez, Suite 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Mr. Romero:

Thank you for your December 15, 2009 letter responding to the final Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) report and letter dated October 31, 2009. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed your response to the recommendation and believe that your proposed actions adequately address the recommendation.

A periodic meeting will be conducted with your program in the July 2011 time frame. The periodic meetings were created to help NRC and Agreement States remain knowledgeable of their respective programs and to plan for the next IMPEP review. As indicated in the final IMPEP report, the next full IMPEP review is tentatively scheduled for July 2013. During the periodic meeting and at the next IMPEP review in 2013, we will evaluate the effectiveness of your response to our recommendation, as well as the implementation of your overall program.

I appreciate the positive actions that you and your staff are taking to address the recommendation. I also wish to acknowledge your continued support for the Agreement State program. I look forward to our agencies continuing to work cooperatively in the future.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert J. Lewis, Director
Division of Materials Safety and
State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

cc: Jon Goldstein, State Liaison Officer
New Mexico Environment Department

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