

## ARKANSAS MONITORING CALL SUMMARY

<b>NRC Attendees</b>	<b>Arkansas Attendees</b>
Randy Erickson, RSAO	Bernard Bevill, Section Chief
Lisa Dimmick, FSME	Jared Thompson, Program Manager
Michelle Beardsley, FSME	Tammy Kriesel, Health Physicist
	Angela Minden, Health Physicist

### **Summary:**

During the week of April 4-8, 2011, an IMPEP review team performed a follow-up review of the Arkansas Radiation Control Program (the Program), in part, to determine if the Program had successfully completed the actions necessary to close the four recommendations noted during a review conducted in October 2009, and to further determine if the period of Heightened Oversight initially imposed on the Program in 2007 could be relaxed.

The review team noted several significant improvements in the program and closed the four open recommendations, but did not feel as though the Program had sufficient time to demonstrate a period of sustained performance. The review team recommended and the MRB agreed that the period of Heightened Oversight should be terminated, and that a period of Monitoring be initiated. On September 20, 2011, the NRC hosted the first Monitoring call with the Program.

### **Status of the Recommendation from the 2011 IMPEP Review:**

- 1. The review team recommends that the State develop and implement a method for tracking the status of license action reviews to ensure timely completion.*

On September 19, 2011, the Program reported they have continued to make progress in reducing the license renewal backlog. At the time of the October 2009 IMPEP review; the Program had approximately 130 license renewals in the backlog. As of June 30, 2011, the Program has reduced that number by 58 and now has 81 total licensing renewals backlogged. Of the 81 remaining renewals, 23 are currently being worked by the staff and includes all nine renewals with renewal dates prior to 2008.

The Program reported they have developed a plan to eventually eliminate the backlog. At the present time they have pulled all Priority 1-3 inspections forward approximately three months and are currently performing those inspections. In October 2011 they will cease performing routine inspections and instead will focus the staff on licensing. Amendment requests will continue to be processed as they come in; however, five staff members as well as two contractors will be actively working on the licensing backlog. Each reviewer is expected to be working on at least four renewals at all times. The Program has a goal of completing at least 40 additional renewals by the time of their next Periodic Meeting currently scheduled for October 2012.



Randy Erickson  
Regional State Agreements Officer

Internal distribution via e-mail:

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ADAMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Rev Complete	Reviewer Initials: RRE	
Publicly Available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Non Sensitive		
RIV: RSAO				
RRErickson				
<i>ME</i>				
9/26/11				

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