



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0435

ROBERT J. MARTINEAU, JR.
COMMISSIONER

BILL HASLAM
GOVERNOR

June 18, 2012

Jim Lynch
State Agreements Officer
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210
Lisle, IL 60532-4352

Dear Mr. Lynch:

We are in receipt of the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) draft report dated May 25, 2012 as the result of the April 23-27, 2012 review. We appreciate the opportunity to review the draft report prior to submission to the Management Review Board. Please find attached our comments and suggestions regarding certain aspects of the draft report.

We also appreciate the professionalism and courtesy demonstrated throughout the week by you and your review team. It was a pleasure working with you and with the NRC management representatives, who participated in the latter stages of the review and the closeout meeting. We value the IMPEP process as a tool to evaluate the status of our radiation protection program on a national level and to identify opportunities to improve our processes.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the USNRC for the full financial support in training Division staff through attendance at USNRC training courses. This training is invaluable to our state, and without your continued full financial support, it would be difficult in the current economic environment to maintain training for health physics staff.

We look forward to working forward with the USNRC to protect the public health and safety and the environment from radiation hazards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shari L. Meghreblian, Ph.D.".

Shari L. Meghreblian, Ph.D.
Deputy Commissioner

SLM:cm

Enclosure

ATTACHMENT

Comments on the April 23-27, 2012 Draft Report,
 Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program
 Review of Tennessee Agreement State Program

Changes are highlighted in yellow

Comments		
Technical Staffing and Training		
Page 3	Section 3.1 Paragraph 3 Line 4	“incident response activities are conducted primarily by four field offices and the central office
Technical Quality of Inspections		
Page 5	Section 3.3 Paragraph 4 Line 5	The Division issues to the licensee either a letter indicating a clear inspection or a Notice of Violation (NOV) Notice of Non-compliance (NNC) , in letter format, which details the results of the inspection. When the Division issues an NOV NNC , the licensee is required to provide a written corrective action plan, based on the violations cited, within 15 days.
Page 7	4 th Full Paragraph Line 4	A second reviewer on staff had done waste processor reviews in the past. This reviewer is still available to do these reviews and handles special processor amendments and performs the import/export license reviews when asked by NRC for comments on the applications received from Tennessee processors. The Division has started.....
Page 9	Paragraph 4 Line 1	Tennessee=s should be Tennessee’s
Technical Staffing and Training		
Page 12	Section 4.2.1 Paragraph 2	The Division Currently has three four qualified reviewers, and two others are one other is working on becoming a fully qualified reviewers reviewer.

	Line 1	
Appendix E	File No. 2	Comment: Incident not reported to NMED. Should be: Incident reported late to NMED on 5/1/2012.
Appendix E	File No. 15	Comment: Incident was not reported to NMED. Should be: Incident reported late to NMED on 5/1/2012.