

STATE OF TENNESSEE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

Division of Radiological Health William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower 312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 15th Floor Nashville, Tennessee 37243 Telephone: (615) 532-0364 Fax: (615) 532-0614

May 5, 2016

Paul Michalak, Acting Chief Agreement States Program Branch Division of Material Safety, State, Tribal, and Rulemaking Programs Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Michalak:

We are in receipt of the IMPEP draft report dated April 11, 2016 as the result of the March 7-11 review of Tennessee's agreement state program. We appreciate the opportunity to review the draft report prior to submission to the Management Review Board. After review of the report, we would offer one comment regarding the team's recommendation under 3.4 c. on page 9:

• Change (2) in paragraph one to read "....continue to develop and finalize the licensing guidance for the unique activities associated with waste processors."

We would like to thank the review team's courtesy and thoroughness demonstrated throughout the week. The IMPEP process is a valuable tool to evaluate the status of our radiation protection program on a national level and to identify opportunities to improve our processes. We are very pleased with the positive feedback your team provided and look forward to working with the NRC and agreement states to protect the public health and safety and the environment from radiation hazards.

Sincerely,

Debra G. Shults

Director

Division of Radiological Health

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Cc: Shari Meghreblian, Ph.D, Deputy Commissioner

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