

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 5, 2023

The Honorable Tate Reeves Governor of Mississippi Jackson, MS 39205

Dear Governor Reeves:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am pleased to notify you of the Commission's decision to discontinue the Mississippi Agreement State Program's Probationary period and place the Program on a period of Heightened Oversight.

The February 2023 Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) review found that the actions taken to implement your Program Improvement Plan to address previously identified weaknesses have resulted in significant performance improvements. Notably, Mississippi's performance improved in five of six IMPEP performance indicators. Mississippi successfully addressed the 2017 IMPEP review recommendation and 9 out of 10 2022 IMPEP review recommendations. Mississippi has updated its Program Improvement Plan to reflect the completion of these recommendations. The NRC staff will continue to hold bimonthly calls with Mississippi to monitor the progress of the actions committed to in the updated Program Improvement Plan. The NRC will conduct the next IMPEP review in approximately 2 years.

The Commission congratulates the State of Mississippi on its improved performance and remains ready to assist Mississippi in continuing to improve its Agreement State program. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have, or your staff may contact Mr. John Lubinski, Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, at <u>John.Lubinski@nrc.gov</u> or (301) 415-0595.

Sincerely,

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Christopher T. Hanson

cc: Daniel Edney, M.D., FACP, FASAM State Health Officer Mississippi State Department of Health