

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 13, 2024

Daniel Edney, M.D., FACP, FASAM State Health Officer Mississippi State Department of Health 570 East Woodrow Wilson Avenue P.O. Box 1700 Jackson, MS 39215-1700

SUBJECT: PROGRAMMATIC SUSTAINABILITY AND FUNDING OF THE MISSISSIPPI

AGREEMENT STATE PROGRAM

Dear Dr. Edney:

We appreciate the Mississippi Agreement State Program's dedication and leadership to the safe and secure use of radioactive materials in the State of Mississippi. I am writing to share some perspectives regarding the need for sustained programmatic stability and funding for the Mississippi Agreement State Program that was established in 1962, based on an Agreement between the Governor of Mississippi and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

The NRC is aware that the Mississippi Agreement State Program has proposed a fee increase to ensure its obligations as an Agreement State are met. The NRC commends Mississippi on the improved program performance observed during the 2023 Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) review (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession Number ML23188A186). The NRC believes that adequate funding will enable Mississippi to implement a well-conceived and balanced staffing strategy, sustain the improved performance documented in the 2023 IMPEP review, and continue to adequately protect the health and safety.

The NRC appreciates your continued support in ensuring that Mississippi has the necessary resources to manage and maintain an effective Agreement State Program. I want to assure you that the NRC supports the objectives of the Mississippi Agreement State Program and will continue to work closely with the Program. We appreciate your commitment to this effort.

Sincerely,

Signed by Lubinski, John on 03/13/24

John W. Lubinski, Director Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards D. Edney 2

CC:

Marshall Horn, Director Office of Health Protection Mississippi State Department of Health

Melissa Parker, Deputy Director Office of Health Protection Mississippi State Department of Health

Ronald Rogers, Director Division of Radiological Health Mississippi State Department of Health D. Edney 3

PROGRAMMATIC SUSTAINABILITY AND FUNDING OF THE MISSISSIPPI AGREEMENT STATE PROGRAM DATE March 13, 2024

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