

MINUTES: SPECIAL MANAGEMENT REVIEW BOARD MEETING OF
AUGUST 28, 2018

The attendees were as follows:

In person at U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland:

Dan Dorman, MRB Chair, OEDO
Tison Campbell, MRB Member, OGC
Marc Dapas, MRB Member, NMSS

Lance Rakovan, NMSS
Paul Michalak, NMSS
Dan Collins, NMSS

By videoconference:

Jack Giessner, MRB Member, Region I
Binesh Tharakan, Region IV

Linda Howell, Region IV

By telephone:

Lee Cox, MRB Member, ND
BJ Smith, MS
Wayne Vaughn, MS
Melanie Vail Fuller, MS
Jayson Moak, MS
Jeff Algee, MS
Robert Sims, MS
Jennifer Opila, CO

James Pate, LA
Jeff Dauzat, LA
Jared Thompson, AR
Bryan Miller, NE
Angela Leek, IA
Joe O'Hara, NMSS
Kathy Modes, NMSS
Lizette Roldan-Otero, NMSS

1. **Convention.** Mr. Lance Rakovan convened the meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m. (ET). He noted that this Management Review Board (MRB) meeting was open to the public. Introductions of the attendees were conducted.

2. **Periodic Meeting with the Mississippi Agreement State Program**

Mr. Binesh Tharakan led the discussion of the results of the periodic meeting held with the Mississippi State Department of Health (ADAMS Accession Number: ML18156A024). The Mississippi Agreement State Program is administered by the Radioactive Materials Branch (the Branch), located within the Division of Radiological Health. The meeting was held in Jackson on April 25, 2018.

At the last Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) review held April 24–27, 2017, the team recommended, and the MRB agreed, that the Mississippi Agreement State Program's performance was satisfactory for indicators Technical Staffing and Training, Status of Materials Inspection Program, and Technical Quality of Inspections; and satisfactory, but needs improvement, for the indicators Technical Quality of Licensing Actions, Technical Quality of Incident and Allegation Activities, and Compatibility Requirements. The MRB found the Program adequate to protect public health and safety, but needs improvement, and compatible with the NRC's program. The review team recommended, and the MRB agreed, that the next IMPEP review take place in approximately 4 years and a periodic meeting take place in approximately 1 year.

Additionally, the MRB directed that a period of Monitoring be initiated with Mississippi due to the fact that three out of six performance indicators were found to be satisfactory, but needs improvement.

The NRC staff conducting the periodic meeting performed a review of the Program's compliance with the MRB recommendations including the development and revision of guidance documents. The NRC staff also reviewed the technical quality of a select number of licensing actions, incidents, and allegations performed by the Program since the 2017 IMEP review.

Mr. Tharakan noted that the Branch took numerous actions to address the 2017 IMPEP recommendation: "The MRB recommends that the Program reviews its guidance, including licensing, incident, and allegation guidance; update this guidance, as appropriate; and provide training to all Program staff on the new procedures."

Mr. Tharakan stated that, overall, since the 2017 IMPEP review, the Branch has completed several actions to improve staff retention, the technical quality of licensing actions, and responses to incidents and allegations. The Branch has also adopted NRC regulations by reference. Based on these actions, and the progress made in addressing the MRB's recommendations, the NRC staff recommended that Mississippi be removed from Monitoring and that the next full IMPEP review be conducted as scheduled in April 2021.

Attendees discussed the Branch's carrier ladder progression. Ms. Melanie Vail Fuller noted it was pending formal approval. Attendees discussed the Branch's standards and policy development. Ms. Roldan-Otero noted that she looked at licensing policy and guidance at the periodic meeting and though they were not deficient, she offered potential improvements. Attendees discussed the departure of a recent hire and the potential for additional attrition. The MRB and State representatives discussed the work of the Quality Improvement (QI) team, regulation status, and licensing processes.

Mr. Wayne Vaughn and Mr. BJ Smith noted that they were impressed by the work of the Branch staff and thanked the NRC for its assistance.

The MRB agreed that the Mississippi Agreement State Program should be removed from Monitoring and that the next full IMPEP should be conducted as scheduled in 2021.

Mr. Lance Rakovan noted that a letter would be drafted for the signature of Dan Dorman to summarize the results of this MRB meeting.

3. **Comments from members of the public.** Ms. Jennifer Opila, from the Colorado Agreement State Program, congratulated Mississippi and the NRC on the quick improvements.
4. **Process Changes/Comments.** None noted.
5. **Precedents/Lessons Learned.** None
6. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m. (ET).