



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
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February 25, 2026

ALL AGREEMENT STATES
INDIANA, WEST VIRGINIA
NRC REGIONS I, III AND IV

IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED MATERIALS PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
PROGRAM AND MANAGEMENT REVIEW BOARD EFFICIENCIES (STC-26-014)

Purpose: To inform the Agreement States, Indiana, West Virginia, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), and NRC Regions I, III, and IV about efficiencies that are being introduced to streamline the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) and Management Review Board (MRB) processes.

Background: The NRC has undertaken a comprehensive initiative to improve the efficiency of the IMPEP and MRB processes as part of broader agency streamlining efforts. Through extensive collaboration with Agreement States, internal stakeholders, and senior leadership, NRC staff has identified a suite of targeted efficiencies designed to maintain program integrity and enhance agility while reducing costs. Collectively, these efficiencies are intended to improve resource utilization, reduce costs, and align with FY 2027 budget objectives while maintaining robust oversight and transparency.

Discussion: The NRC is introducing targeted changes to streamline the IMPEP and MRB processes. These changes were developed through collaboration with Agreement States and NRC staff to maintain program integrity while improving agility and reducing costs. The efficiencies currently being implemented that directly affect Agreement States include:

- **Extending the IMPEP Review Cycle:** The standard IMPEP review interval is being extended from four to five years, with the MRB Chair authorized to approve a six-year cycle for consistently high-performing programs. This change reduces the frequency of reviews, lowering resource demands for both Agreement States and NRC while maintaining robust oversight.
- **Designating MRB Meetings as Non-Public:** All MRB meetings will now be government-to-government discussions rather than formal public meetings. This adjustment responds to Agreement State feedback and promotes candid dialogue during MRB Chair's review of program evaluations.
- **Eliminating MRB Meetings for Fully Satisfactory Reviews:** When all performance indicators are rated satisfactory, an MRB meeting will no longer be required. This change reduces unnecessary administrative burden for Agreement States while preserving transparency through the final IMPEP report.
- **Merging Performance Indicators:** The Status of Materials Inspection Program and Technical Quality of Inspections indicators are being combined into a single indicator. This consolidation simplifies the review process and reduces duplication for Agreement State programs.

- **Expanding Pre-IMPEP Review Activities:** NRC will expand and standardize pre-IMPEP in-office review activities, allowing more thorough analysis before on-site visits. This approach is expected to shorten on-site review durations and reduce IMPEP team-related travel costs.
- **Conducting Several Performance Indicator Reviews Remotely:** The indicators Status of Materials Inspection Program; Sealed Source and Device Evaluation Program; and Legislation, Regulations, and other Program Elements will be reviewed remotely. This efficiency further reduces IMPEP team travel expenses and on-site time.
- **Risk-Informed Inspector Accompaniment:** NRC will prioritize accompaniment of inspections that are more complex or risk-significant. This targeted approach ensures that resources are focused on areas of greatest regulatory importance while reducing unnecessary burden on the IMPEP team and Agreement States.
- **Conducting Periodic Meetings Remotely:** Mid-cycle periodic meetings will be held remotely, reserving in-person meetings for programs that are experiencing significant performance issues or are on heightened oversight or monitoring. This change reduces travel and preparation time for NRC and Agreement State staff, without compromising communication.

These changes are intended to improve efficiency while maintaining the integrity of IMPEP reviews and MRB oversight. To support implementation, NRC will issue interim guidance to the Agreement States and IMPEP team leaders and members detailing how these efficiencies will be applied in upcoming reviews. Additionally, NRC will update Management Directive 5.6, "*Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP)*" and the State Agreement procedures to reflect these changes, ensuring consistency and clarity for Agreement State programs.

If you have any questions, please contact the individual named below:

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Signed by Giantelli, Adelaide
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STC-26-014 Notification of the Implementation of Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program and Management Review Board Efficiencies DATE February 25, 2026

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