

Director
Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Attention: Chief, Radioactive Materials Safety Branch, Mail Stop: T-8E24

May 22, 2013

Dear Director:

The Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties (BPS) was organized in 1976 as an independent certification agency of the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) with an overriding concern to ensure that the public receives the level of pharmacy services that will improve a patient's quality of life. Toward this goal, the Board has recognized six specialty practice areas including nutrition support pharmacy, pharmacotherapy, psychiatric pharmacy, oncology pharmacy, ambulatory care pharmacy, and the oldest specialty – nuclear pharmacy, since 1978. More than 15,800 pharmacist specialists are currently certified by BPS.

With the terms “pharmacy” and “pharmacists” being associated with health care professionals and scientists, and “pharmaceutical” often referring to drug products or preparations, the BPS Board of Directors reviewed and considered action to remove the word “pharmaceutical” from its name to better reflect the organization’s focus on credentials for health care professionals. This is consistent with actions by APhA and other organizations in pharmacy to avoid confusion with the pharmaceutical industry. At its September 2009 meeting, the BPS Board voted unanimously to request that the APhA Board of Trustees amend the BPS Governing Policies document to change its name to the Board of Pharmacy Specialties. Modifying the Governing Policies is necessary to allow BPS to move ahead with implementing this name change. At its January 2010 meeting, the APhA Board approved a motion to amend the BPS Governing Policies. In January 2011, the APhA Board approved a motion to develop a proposed APhA Bylaw amendment to be placed on the 2011 APhA election ballot for consideration by its membership to change the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties to the Board of Pharmacy Specialties. The membership of APhA approved the amendment to its bylaw in the fall of 2011.

BPS has subsequently used the new name in various print and electronic media, including business cards, official letters, certificates, and marketing materials.

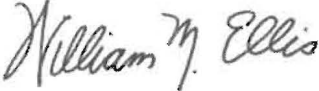
Enclosed are two sample certificates for your reference – one reflecting the old name, and the other reflecting the new name.

Page 2

Please note, the certification process for Board Certified Nuclear Pharmacists (BCNP) has remained the same. Further, BCNP continues to be recognized as an accredited program by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

If you would like to discuss further, feel free to contact me or BPS Legal Counsel Steven P. Benson at sbenson@wtplaw.com or by phone at 703-280-3391.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William M. Ellis".

William M. Ellis
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Steven P. Benson, BPS Legal Counsel
Brian Lawson, BPS Director, Professional Affairs