

(STP-00-070, August 2000, Program, Solid Materials Licensing)

August 22, 2000

ALL AGREEMENT STATES  
OKLAHOMA, MINNESOTA, PENNSYLVANIA, WISCONSIN

**PROGRAM MANAGEMENT INFORMATION: NRC GUIDANCE ON CASE-SPECIFIC  
RELEASE OF SOLID MATERIALS LICENSING DECISIONS (STP-00-070)**

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a memorandum from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards and Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation to the staff within Headquarters and the Regional Offices.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you a copy of the guidance provided to NRC staff on how to make decisions on specific licensing actions, as well as any generic requests, concerning the control of solid materials with relatively small amounts of radioactivity in, or on, materials and equipment.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me or the individual named below.

POINT OF CONTACT: Thomas O'Brien INTERNET: TJO@NRC.GOV  
TELEPHONE: (301) 415-2308 FAX: (301) 415-3205

*/RA/*  
Frederick C. Combs, Deputy Director  
Office of State and Tribal Programs

Enclosure:  
As stated



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

August 7, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Those on the Attached List

FROM: William F. Kane, Director  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

*for* Samuel J. Collins, Director *Roy P. Zimmerman*  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: CASE-SPECIFIC LICENSING DECISIONS ON RELEASE OF  
SOLID MATERIALS FROM LICENSED FACILITIES

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff within Headquarters and the Regional Offices of the approach that should be used at this time for making decisions on specific licensing actions, as well as any generic requests, concerning release of solid materials.

Existing NRC regulations do not contain generally applicable standards for the control of solid materials with relatively small amounts of radioactivity in, or on, materials and equipment. A paper has been provided to the Commission (SECY-00-0070) which recommends, in part, that a final decision be deferred on rulemaking on the control of solid materials, pending the outcome of a National Academy of Sciences study of alternatives. During this period, it is expected that licensees will continue to seek to release solid materials and that these will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis using existing guidance, e.g. application of Regulatory Guide 1.86 and its equivalent, Fuel Cycle Policy and Guidance Directive FC 83-23, for materials licensees and Office of Inspection and Enforcement Circular 81-07 and Information Notices 85-92 and 88-22 for reactor facilities.

To ensure a consistent approach for controlling the release of solid materials, NRC reviews of licensee requests to release solid materials using criteria other than those in existing guidance are to be coordinated with NMSS or NRR Divisions. A list of staff contacts is provided in Attachment A. This approach will continue to remain in effect until Commission-directed studies, such as the NAS study, have been completed.

Attachment: As stated

CONTACT: Tony Huffert, NMSS/DWM  
(301) 415-6416

Attachment A

List of NRC Staff Contacts for Requests Concerning the Release of Solid Materials

NRC Office	NRC Division	Name	Contact
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards	Division of Waste Management	Tony Huffert	Tel: 301-415-6416 Fax: 301-415-5398 email: <a href="mailto:amh1@nrc.gov">amh1@nrc.gov</a> Mail Stop: T8-F37
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards	Division of Industrial, Medical and Nuclear Safety	Frank Cardile	Tel: 301-415-6185 Fax: 301-415-5385 email: <a href="mailto:fpc@nrc.gov">fpc@nrc.gov</a> Mail Stop: T9-F31
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation	Division of Inspection Program Management	Steve Klementowicz	Tel: 301-415-1084 Fax: 301-415-2968 email: <a href="mailto:sxk@nrc.gov">sxk@nrc.gov</a> Mail Stop: 06-H16

MEMORANDUM TO:  
Those on the Attached List

Addressees - Memorandum Dated 08/07/00

SUBJECT:  
CASE-SPECIFIC LICENSING DECISIONS ON RELEASE OF SOLID MATERIALS FROM  
LICENSED FACILITIES

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Assistant for Operations

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Office of the General Counsel

Ashok C. Thadani, Director  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Paul H. Lohaus, Director  
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