

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY



***Real Security:
Keep it Simple.***

Comments on Draft 10CFR37

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My Overall Support

The concept of Part 37 is better than multiple “Orders Imposing Increased Controls” with multiple changes.

- ***Keeps it simple.***

- ***But . . .***

Credit Checks Are Just Plain Not Useful.

- ***Are the rich more trustworthy?***
 - ***An Investment Banker?***
 - ***Someone whose partner had an uninsured cancer?***
- ***Credit Checks are mentioned in the Atomic Energy Act.***
- ***Prohibited in some states.***
- ***Real difficult for foreign nationals.***

Inadequate Background Checks Do Nothing to Improve Real Security.

- ***Purpose is to prevent an insider threat.***
 - ***Insiders always win the media war.***
- ***NRC should perform all background checks to make them useful and uniform.***

To Improve Real Security, Its Not Just the Paperwork

- ***No one individual should be able to disconnect/bypass/defeat all alarms.***
- ***Alarms should sound whenever the radiation safety staff, Reviewing Official, authorized users, security vendors, or police are stealing sources.***

Plain Language or Obfuscation

- ***“The Presidential Memorandum, ‘Plain Language in Government Writing’ published June 10, 1998 (63 FR 31883), directed that the Government’s documents be in clear and accessible language.”***
- ***This is an unmet requirement.***
- ***A new Part37 would be a good time to follow this directive.***

Now Specific Comments



Wording Changes

- ***Many specific wording changes were suggested to improve clarity and reduce long term confusion for everyone.***
- ***Follow them.***

***“Not to exceed 12 months . . .”
is an unnecessarily precise
requirement.***

- ***37.33(a) Access Authorization Review***
- ***37.43(c)(3) Security Plan Training***
- ***37.45(a) LLEA Coordination Review***
- ***37.55 Security Program Review***

- ***Why not 8 – 15 months?***

§37.51(a)

Maintenance and Testing

- ***Change the frequency of system checks from quarterly to annually.***
 - ***Reducing number of alarms reduces long term testing costs/time.***

- ***We should only test things that have a possible failure mechanism***
 - ***If it can't break, don't test it.***
 - ***Only test the necessary alarms.***

§37.57(b)

Reporting of events.

- ***Why report all suspicious activity?***
 - ***Actual suspicious events—yes.***
 - ***False alarms – no.***

- ***I have reported a couple suspicious events, but why are reports of “non-events” requested?***

Conclusions: Keep it Simple

- ***Background checks by the NRC.***
- ***Credit checks are not useful.***
- ***Focus on security not paperwork.***
- ***Picky paperwork ≠ security.***
- ***Consider the media impact of suspicious activity reports to NRC Ops Center.***
- ***“Plain Language” is required.***