

September 1, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: John A. Zwolinski, Director, DLPM
Bruce A. Boger, Director, DIPM
David B. Matthews, Director, DRIP
Jack R. Strosnider, Director, DE
Gary M. Holahan, Director, DSSA

FROM: Jacqueline E. Silber, Director */RA/*
Program Management, Policy Development
and Analysis Staff
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: FY 2001 INFORMATION COLLECTION BUDGET CALL
(TAC MA6798)

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued its call for the FY 2001 Information Collection Budget (ICB). The attached memorandum from the Chief Information Officer (CIO) requests NRR's input to the agency's submittal and provides detailed instructions and formats to be followed in developing our response. I am providing you with an advance copy of this request to maximize the time available to prepare NRR's response.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 set a Government-wide programmatic reduction goal of 5 percent for FYs 1998 through 2001. OMB has emphasized that it expects each agency to achieve this reduction. NRC achieved less than a 4 percent programmatic reduction in FY 1998, a 0.03 percent reduction in FY 1999, and projects less than a 0.1 percent reduction for FY 2000. Therefore, serious thought must be given to developing strategies to attain the 5 percent goal for FY 2001, or OMB may mandate a minimum 5-percent reduction for each agency.

The attached memo also states that the OCIO will be sending a separate request for input to an October report to OMB on our plan for compliance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA).

The NRR Information Management Coordinator is Debbie McCain, MS 0-5E1. Your input is due to her no later than September 22, 2000. If you have any questions, you can reach her at 415-1219 and her e-mail address is DLM2.

Attachment:
Memo from S. Reiter

cc w/attachment:
S. Collins
R. Zimmerman
B. Sheron
J. Johnson

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ACCESSION NUMBER: ML003745961

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OFFICE	PIMB:PMAS:NRR	E	C:PIM:PMAS:NRR	N	D:PMAS	N				
NAME	DMcCain		LBarnett		JSilber					
DATE	09/01/2000		09/01/2000		09/01/2000					

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

MEMORANDUM TO: Office Directors and Regional Administrators ATTACHMENT

FROM: Stuart Reiter **ADVANCE COPY**
Chief Information Officer

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2001 INFORMATION COLLECTION BUDGET CALL

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued its call for the fiscal year (FY) 2001 Information Collection Budget (ICB). The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) needs your office's input to prepare the agency's submittal. As in previous years, OMB is requesting information on current and proposed initiatives to reduce the recordkeeping and reporting burden on the public, including electronic initiatives. We have attached a copy of several initiatives described in the agency's response to last year's ICB to show you the type of information we need.

In addition, the OCIO will shortly send you a separate request for input to an October report to OMB on our plan for compliance with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA). The GPEA requires agencies, no later than October 2003, to allow electronic submittal, maintenance, and disclosure of information in addition to paper, and to use and accept electronic signatures. Your office will be asked to identify both Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) and non-PRA information transactions with other agencies and the public. As part of this plan, we must include a schedule of when we expect each agency recordkeeping and reporting requirement to be able to be addressed electronically. Please respond to this separate action in as much detail as possible because your input will also form the basis for the information we must submit in response to OMB's FY 2002 ICB call.

Congress is scrutinizing OMB's efforts to reduce the information collections burden on the public. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 set a Government-wide programmatic reduction goal of 5 percent for FYs 1998 through 2001. OMB expects all agencies to meet this goal. NRC achieved less than a 4 percent programmatic reduction in FY 1998, a 0.03 percent reduction in FY 1999, and projects less than a 0.1 percent reduction for FY 2000. Therefore, we should strive to develop strategies to attain the 5-percent goal for FY 2001, or OMB may mandate a minimum 5-percent reduction for each agency.

The Information Management Coordinators (IMCs) in each office are responsible for coordinating and distributing the ICB to responsible staff. It is essential that your staff work with the IMCs and give them the information needed to prepare and submit your consolidated input to OCIO by October 2, 2000. This will give the OCIO time to prepare and submit the final ICB to OMB before the deadline.

Using the attached instructions and formats, please send your office's input to Brenda Shelton, Chief of the Records Management Branch, T-6 E6, by October 2, 2000.

This request has been coordinated with the Executive Director for Operations and the Chief Financial Officer.

Attachments: As stated
cc: Information Management Coordinators

DOCUMENT NAME: C: P:\ICB\icb2001\ICBCallMem1.WPD

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FY 2001 INFORMATION COLLECTION BUDGET

The following instructions detail the information that must be provided by each Office and Region so that the Office of the Chief Information Officer may prepare the agency's Information Collection Budget for FY 2001 and report on significant burden changes made in FY 2000 or expected in FY 2001.

BURDEN ESTIMATES FOR FY 2000 AND FY 2001

Using the instructions provided in Attachments A-1 and 2, "Information Collections Imposed in FY 2000," and "Information Collections to Be Imposed in FY 2001," provide the responsible person's name and program office, title of the collection, implementation date, and change in burden for all collections.

For collections with significant burden changes or those that are controversial (+ or -5000 hours, or a Part 35 or 26 collection), provide a description of the new or revised collection compared against the current requirement, the purpose or need for the collection, indicating the reasons for any burden reductions and why any burden increase is necessary. If the change is part of a broader agency initiative, e.g., risk-informed regulation, include the name of the initiative and a brief description. Provide the Public Law or Executive Order number, if applicable.

For insignificant burden changes (less than 5000 hours), you do not need to describe the changes or need for the collection. You should merely check the most appropriate reason for the new/modified information collection.

CLEARANCE EXTENSIONS TO BE RENEWED IN FY 2001

Attachment A-1, "Clearance Extensions to be Renewed in FY 2001," lists all clearance extensions that are scheduled for renewal in FY 2001 (and two FY 2000 renewals that are expected to slip to FY 2001). For each of your office's listed information collections, provide the estimated annual burden that will be requested when OMB clearance renewal is sought. If the collection is to be discontinued or the burden will change, please provide an explanation in the "Comments" column. If you have already submitted a draft or final clearance package to the OCIO, the revised burden and reasons for change is indicated. However, if you believe the burden in these clearance packages will be revised based on OCIO or public comments, please correct the entries.

Although OMB has set a 5 percent burden reduction goal for each year, these reductions must be programmatic, not adjustments. Therefore, we have included a column for burden changes that are adjustments and one for programmatic changes. When you estimate your burden changes for FY 2001, please attempt to estimate the amount of the burden change, if any, that will be attributable to programmatic changes, e.g., implemented rules or use of industry initiatives, and include that portion in the "Prog. Change" column. All other burden changes should be considered adjustments.

INFORMATION COLLECTIONS IMPOSED IN FY 2000

Office/Project Manager:

Title of Collection: (Title of final or direct final rule [including 10 CFR Part(s)], policy statement, survey, questionnaire, or form)

Effective Date or Date Imposed: (Effective date of final rule, or the month and year a survey, questionnaire, form, policy statement or other new collection was imposed.)

Change in Total Annual Burden Hours: (For final rules that change the burden to more than one 10 CFR Part, indicate the burden changes separately for **each** 10 CFR Part.)

Description of Collection (Collections with Significant Increases or Decreases in Burden Only): (For all Part 26 and Part 35 increases, regardless of the burden, and all information collections that increased or decreased the burden by at least 5,000 hours, provide the following:)

What information was collected prior to the change, from whom, and for what purpose (i.e., the agency's need and use of the information).

What was changed, how it affects the burden, and whether it is part of a broader agency initiative. If part of a broader agency initiative, indicate the initiative.

Check all appropriate reasons for the burden change below:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change in reporting frequency | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in number of respondents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidation of requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> Elimination, modification, or addition of a reporting or recordkeeping requirement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Methodology | <input type="checkbox"/> Cuts/eliminates redundancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Information Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Simplification of form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below:) | |

For increases and reductions caused by a new statute, indicate the full title of the statute and public law number.

Reasons for Change in Burden of Less than 5,000 Hours: (For all information collections that change the burden by less than 5,000 hours, check the one most appropriate reason for the change below.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Statutory Requirement | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory Change (Select "New Statute or E.O." if this is the reason for the change) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Re-estimate based on staff experience | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in number of respondents or licensees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/New Executive Order | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in reporting frequency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New, reinstated, or expired collection | <input type="checkbox"/> Simplification of form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below:) | |

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Office/Project Manager:

Title of Collection: (Title of final or direct final rule [including 10 CFR Part(s)], policy statement, survey, questionnaire, or form)

Effective Date or Date Imposed: (Effective date of final rule, or the month and year a survey, questionnaire, form, policy statement or other new collection will be imposed.)

Change in Total Annual Burden Hours: (For final rules that will increase the burden to more than one 10 CFR Part, indicate the burden changes separately for **each** 10 CFR Part.)

Description of Collection (Collections with Significant Increases or Decreases in Burden Only): (For all Part 26 and Part 35 increases, regardless of the burden, and all information collections that will increase or decrease the burden by at least 5,000 hours, provide the following:)

What information is collected prior to the change, from whom, and for what purpose (i.e., the agency's need and use of the information).

What will be changed, how it will affect the burden and whether it is part of a broader agency initiative. If part of a broader agency initiative, indicate the initiative.

Check all appropriate reasons for the burden change below:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change in reporting frequency | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in number of respondents |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below) | |

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- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Statutory Requirement | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory Change (Select "New Statute or E.O." if this is the reason for the change) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Re-estimate based on staff experience | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in number of respondents or licensees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/New Executive Order | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in reporting frequency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New, reinstated, or expired collection | <input type="checkbox"/> Simplification of form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below:) | |

NRR CLEARANCE EXTENSIONS TO BE RENEWED IN FY 2001

INFORMATION COLLECTION	CURRENT BURDEN HOURS	REVISED BURDEN HOURS	ADJUSTED CHANGE	PROGRAMMATIC CHANGE	REASONS FOR BURDEN CHANGE
10 CFR 21, Report of Defects and Noncompliance (09/2001) 3150-0035 - Ted Quay	17,093				
10 CFR 50, Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities (10/2000), 3150-0011 - All	5,700,165	4,723,243	-550,302	-426,620	Decrease in number of licensed power reactors
NRC Form 366, Licensed Event Report (06/2001) 3150-0104 - David Skeen	80,000				
NRC Form 398, Personal Qualification Statement - Licensee (10/2000) 3150-0090 Edith Barnhill	1,730	1,950	220		First inclusion of burden for application for waivers
NRC Form 474, Simulation Facility Certification (08/2001) 3150-0138 Larry Vick	2,400				

FY 2000 INITIATIVES FOR REDUCING THE BURDEN ON THE PUBLIC

REVISION OF NRC'S ACQUISITION REGULATION (NRCAR): The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) was revised to increase the simplified acquisition threshold to \$100,000. Contracts awarded between the values of \$50,000 and \$99,000 are now being awarded using simplified acquisition procedures stated under FAR Part 13. Therefore, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has revised 48 CFR Part 20, the NRC's acquisition regulation, to meet the requirements of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act, the Federal Acquisition Reform Act, and the Information Technology Management Reform Act. The revised NRCAR will reduce the burden on small businesses by streamlining burdensome competitive proposal and task order proposal submittal requirements by using oral presentations with a minimum number of evaluation criteria during the source selection process. This initiative is also included in Appendix B.

REVISED REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS: The NRC is revamping its oversight process for operating commercial nuclear power plants. A synopsis is presented below because a large portion of the initiatives described in our Fiscal Year (FY) 2000 response to the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) FY 2000 Information Collection Budget Call is based on various aspects of the new oversight process. This revised process will not necessarily reduce the number of records or reports required of licensees, but it is expected to reduce the time and effort that must be expended to obtain the data to produce these records and reports.

The impetus behind this comprehensive change in approach came both from NRC's reviews of its regulatory process as part of the "reinventing government" process and from concerns expressed by the nuclear industry, Congressional committees, and public interest groups. Current processes for inspection, assessment, and enforcement are not always focused on the most important safety issues. Some regulatory activities have not been sufficiently understandable or predictable and have been redundant, inefficient, or overly subjective.

The new oversight process takes into account improvements in the performance of the nuclear industry over the past 20 years and NRC's attempt to apply more objective, timely, safety-significant criteria in assessing performance, as well as the agency's need to effectively regulate the industry with a smaller staff and budget. The new oversight process addresses these concerns by

- Focusing inspections on activities in which the potential risks are greater
- Applying greater regulatory attention to facilities with performance problems and reducing attention on facilities that perform well
- Using objective performance measurements, whenever possible
- Providing the nuclear industry and the public with timely, understandable assessments of plant performance
- Minimizing unnecessary regulatory burdens on nuclear facilities.

Measuring nuclear plant performance: Nuclear plant performance will be measured by a combination of objective performance indicators and inspections focused on plant activities that have the greatest impact on safety and overall risk. Performance indicators use objective data to monitor specified safety areas. The data that make up the performance indicators will be prepared by the utilities and submitted to the NRC. NRC will also monitor plant activities to verify the accuracy of the performance indicator information and to assess performance that is not measured by the performance indicators.

Inspections: The redesigned inspection program was developed using a “risk-informed” approach to select specific safety areas. The new inspection program will include baseline inspections common to all nuclear plants, with additional inspections at plants with performance below a specified threshold, based on performance indicator inspection findings. The program will continue to be evaluated to determine the level of effort needed by industry and the NRC.

Assessing plant performance: The performance indicator data submitted by the utilities, will be evaluated and integrated with the findings of the NRC inspection program. Performance indicators will be monitored by NRC staff and reported quarterly by the utilities.

NRC response to plant performance: Quarterly reviews of plant performance, using the performance indicators and inspection assessments, will determine what additional action, if any, the NRC will take. This process is intended to be more predictable than current practices by linking regulatory actions to performance criteria.

Making performance information available to the public: The revised oversight process will provide more information on plant performance than in the past, and the information will be made available more frequently. Updated plant performance information will be issued by NRC quarterly and placed on NRC’s Homepage, as well as in its Agency Document Access and Management System. The performance reports will include performance indicator data and inspection findings for the previous four quarters to provide a context for assessing performance and observing change in that performance. The unified report will then be issued to the utility and to the public.

How this oversight process differs from the current system: The new process is designed to focus more of the agency’s resources on the relatively small number of plants that evidence performance problems, while reducing the regulatory impact on plants that perform well. The revamping of NRC’s inspection and oversight process should fulfill the following four goals:

- Maintain safety by establishing a regulatory oversight framework that ensures plants continue to be operated safely
- Enhance public confidence by increasing the predictability, consistency, objectivity, and scrutability of the oversight process
- Improve effectiveness and efficiency of the oversight process by focusing agency and utility resources on those issues with the most risk significance
- Reduce unnecessary licensee burden as the process becomes more efficient and effective.

The new process was tested on a pilot basis for six months at nine nuclear power plants that represent a cross section of the nuclear industry. The results of this pilot will be used to evaluate and modify the new processes before they are extended to all plants in April 2000.

RISK-INFORMED REGULATORY GUIDES: A new series of regulatory guides provide, as an alternative to the deterministically-based current licensing basis (CLB) change method, a risk-informed method that licensees may elect to use in requesting changes to their CLB. These risk-informed guides cover the areas of In-Service Inspection, In-Service Testing, Graded Quality Assurance, Technical Specifications, and an overall guide generically applicable to these four areas.

The guides specify the records, analyses, and documents that licensees are expected to prepare in support of risk-informed changes to their CLB in the specified areas. Licensees are expected to perform (and in some cases submit) analyses, and develop and maintain an implementation and monitoring plan that will include maintaining records of equipment performance. Although the licensees' overall reporting and recordkeeping burden will increase, overall savings in licensee resources and increased operating flexibility are anticipated. These will more than compensate for this increase, with no significant change in overall plant safety.

RISK-INFORMED RESEARCH: During FY 2000, NRC plans to continue to conduct research to evaluate the risk significance of various safety issues and equipment, operational experience, and current regulatory practices. These assessments and evaluations will be used to develop a technical basis to maintain safety; make NRC activities more effective, efficient, and realistic; increase public confidence; and allow reductions in unnecessary licensee burden through possible modifications to the regulations or elimination of potential safety issues. Areas to be evaluated in FY 2000 that may support future regulatory changes or that will support improvements in the new reactor oversight process are

- Evaluate risk-important aspects of digital instrumentation and control equipment
- Manage and resolve generic safety issues
- Identify important aspects of human performance
- Evaluate probabilistic risk assessment methods and standards
- Improve risk-informed decisions associated with natural hazards
- Assess trends and risk-significance in recent operational data to enhance plant inspections of risk-important systems
- Review and develop risk insights for Individual Plant Examinations and External Event Evaluations to support development of guidance and risk-assessment standards
- Develop thermal-hydraulic, fuel behavior, severe accident, and neutronic codes to support more accurate models for predicting plant behavior under accident conditions
- Reduce conservatisms in emergency core cooling system codes through more accurate models for predictions of plant behavior under accident conditions
- Evaluate the pressurized thermal shock rule and pressure-temperature limits for reactor pressure vessels
- Develop the technical basis for licensing spent fuel transportation packages and burn-up credit methodology to develop more accurate models for criticality safety calculations of spent nuclear fuel casks
- Develop seismic criteria specific to independent spent fuel storage installations
- Evaluate and revise models for assessing radiation exposure

Other more significant initiatives expected to reduce licensee burden are discussed below:

Integrated evaluation of regulatory information: Using a performance-based approach to regulating nuclear activities focuses NRC and licensee resources on the most safety significant issues, while providing flexibility in how licensees meet NRC requirements, thus reducing burden. Significant opportunities to improve effectiveness and reduce unnecessary licensee and NRC resources are expected during FY 2000 when risk information is used to propose modifications, updates, and deletions to 10 CFR Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities." Revisions to the reactor oversight process will present similar opportunities at the same time. In the nuclear materials safety arena, pilot projects using performance-based approaches are ongoing.

Scrutable and risk-informed plant safety assessments: A more scrutable and risk-informed process to monitor and assess trends in plant-specific and industry-wide safety performance is expected to improve NRC's ability to conduct effective plant assessments. During FY 2000, the following sources of operational data will be used to support development of this plant assessment process: (1) the Reliability and Availability Database System (RADS); (2) the Sequence Coding and Search System (SCSS) database; and (3) the Equipment Performance and Information Exchange (EPIX) database, which is maintained by the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations. This operating experience information will be used to enhance plant inspections of risk-important systems, to support NRC technical reviews of license amendments, including risk-informed applications, and to develop risk-based performance indicators to support improvements in the new reactor oversight process.

Probabilistic risk assessment (PRA) methods and standards: Current PRA methods do not adequately address certain key aspects of plant risk, including quality assurance, human reliability, fire, and low-power and shutdown operations. Uncertainty concerning the nature and magnitude of the contributions of these aspects to plant risk limits progress in using risk-informed regulation by requiring that conservative decisions be made to account for large uncertainties. During FY 2000, research will be conducted to better define and reduce the uncertainty in these aspects of PRA. Staff and industry expect potential safety enhancements and licensee burden reductions through the use of more complete and quantitative estimates of risk that can be used in general, such as in reactor oversight and in 10 CFR Part 50 revisions, and in plant-specific risk-informed decisionmaking.

Risk-informed regulations and regulatory actions: Existing regulations that use deterministic bases do not always focus on the most risk-significant items, leading to unnecessary burden on licensees and, potentially, lower priority given to important safety matters. During FY 2000, NRC will evaluate and make recommendations for modifying, updating, or deleting regulations in 10 CFR Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities." Beginning in FY 2000, the technical basis for recommended changes will be developed to support risk-informed rulemaking and regulatory processes changes commensurate with safety significance. The rule revisions will reduce licensee burden and provide potential safety enhancements. Additionally, NRC will provide up-to-date risk analysis software tools and detailed PRA models for use in the oversight process, operational event analyses, and other staff activities, provide the technical basis for risk-informed technical specifications, and develop the technical basis for revision of several regulatory guides.

RULEMAKING TO REVISE NRC'S REGULATIONS TO PERMIT THE SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS ELECTRONICALLY: Currently, NRC regulations require submissions in paper format from applicants and licensees in all areas except those involving radiation exposure data, waste shipping manifest forms, and nuclear material accounting information. Under 10 CFR § 50.4(c), power reactor licensees and applicants may request an exception to the paper requirement and submit documents electronically on a case-by-case basis by obtaining prior approval and specifications from NRC. NRC is currently developing the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), an electronic document management and record keeping system. ADAMS is expected to be operational in FY2000. Amendments to the NRC regulations are necessary to provide all licensees, applicants, and other entities the option to make electronic submissions voluntarily to the NRC without first seeking approval from the NRC to do so.

Before promulgating this rule, the NRC intends to issue a Regulatory Issues Summary that will grant a generic exemption to the prior approval requirement pursuant to 10 CFR § 50.4(c), provided certain specifications are met. The Regulatory Issues Summary will set forth the specifications for electronic submissions. The NRC plans to use the same specifications in the proposed rulemaking proceeding, which would broaden the generic exemption to include all NRC licensees, applicants, and other entities, not just reactor licensees. Comments received regarding the specifications set out in the Regulatory Issues Summary will allow the NRC to address some public concerns before initiating the rulemaking, and thus curtail the number of significant adverse public comments on this rulemaking.

NRC is considering two rulemaking options. Under Option 1, NRC would issue a direct final rule simultaneously with a proposed rule. If NRC does not receive significant adverse comments, the final rule will take effect 60 days after publication. If NRC receives significant adverse comments, the staff will continue this initiative as a proposed rule. Under Option 2, NRC would publish a proposed rule with a 30-day comment period, and would subsequently publish a final rule addressing comments received.

REVISED REACTOR OVERSIGHT/PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (PIs): As part of a joint industry-NRC initiative, the NRC is receiving information submitted voluntarily by power reactor licensees regarding selected performance attributes known as performance indicators (PIs). PIs provide objective measures of the performance of licensees' systems or programs. The NRC is revising its reactor oversight process to use PI information, along with the results of selected audits and inspections, as the basis for NRC conclusions regarding plant performance and necessary regulatory response.

The NRC is conducting a pilot program of the revised reactor oversight process at nine nuclear power reactor sites from June 1999 through December 1999. The pilot program is intended to test how effectively the revised oversight process works and to identify possible problems. After incorporating lessons learned from the pilot, the NRC plans to implement the revised reactor oversight process for all plants in April 2000.

To facilitate information dissemination and exchange with the nuclear power plant licensees involved in the pilot program, members of the public, industry groups, and other nuclear power plant licensees, the NRC staff has established and is maintaining a website on the agency's Homepage with information on the two primary inputs used to assess licensee performance in the revised oversight process: performance indicators (PIs) and inspection findings.

Performance indicators will be submitted on a voluntary basis to the NRC by licensees on a quarterly basis. Inspection findings are a result of NRC inspections and are documented in inspection reports and the plant issues matrix (PIM).

The website presents plant performance summary information for each pilot plant. The Revised Oversight/Performance Indicator web pages will consist of the latest PI data submitted by the licensees and graphs, inspection results, data stored in the Reactor Program System (RPS) such as the PIM, Inspection Plans, and documents that will be stored in Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), such as Inspection Reports and Assessment Letters.

These data are sorted by reactor performance cornerstones, and are color-coded to reflect the most significant finding in the current reporting period. Clicking on a specific PI button will lead the reader to the current data, chart, and licensee comments (if applicable) for that PI and the reader can scroll through the web page to see additional PI data for that licensee. Clicking on a specific inspection results button will lead the reader to the most significant PIM entry related to that reactor performance cornerstone and the reader can scroll through the web page to see additional PIM entries for that licensee. In addition, clicking on the inspection report number within a PIM entry will lead to the NRC inspection report that documented the finding. Clicking on the "miscellaneous findings" button on the plant performance summary page will take the reader to programmatic findings in the PIM for cross-cutting issues not segregated by cornerstone, such as corrective action program and PI verification findings.

Also included within this web page are a description of the reactor performance cornerstones and PIs, and a summary matrix of the PI results across all pilot plants.

The major goals of the Agency are to maintain reactor safety, improve efficiency and effectiveness, reduce regulatory burden, and increase public confidence. The Revised Oversight/Performance Indicators program supports these Agency goals by providing the public with timely and easily accessible information on the Internet.

Summary of plans to expand information collection or dissemination initiative: The staff is currently preparing a generic communication to industry, a regulatory issue summary, which will provide guidance on industry's voluntary reporting of performance indicator information to the NRC staff. Initially, nuclear power plant licensees will provide this information by electronic mail and the staff will transfer this data to the website. Once the agency's ADAMS electronic information exchange (EIE) system is operational, this voluntary information collection will use the EIE system to reduce burden on licensees and the NRC. The licensees' submissions will reside in ADAMS as the official licensees' submittals.

NUCLEAR MATERIAL EVENTS DATABASE (NMED) REPORTING: As part of the NRC's Agreement State program, States are required to report nuclear material events as they occur. The electronic reporting of such events by Agreement States is accomplished through NRC's automated Nuclear Material Events Database (NMED). NMED has significantly reduced the effort previously incurred through a manual collection of this information on NRC Forms 565 and 566, "Event and Medical Misadministration Reports."

Section 208 of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (PL93-438), as amended, requires that NRC provide information on abnormal occurrences (AO), unscheduled incidents or events that the Commission determines to be significant from the standpoint of public health and safety, to Congress. NRC previously gathered this information from the States for input to a quarterly report to Congress. Since AO reports are now due to Congress annually and since this information is currently electronically reported by the Agreement States and captured by NMED, NRC need not pose to Agreement States a separate AO request, other than to gain clarifying information from a particular State(s). This results in an overall burden reduction to Agreement States.