



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 13, 1999

The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Chairman
Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands,
Private Property and Nuclear Safety
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the Subcommittee are copies of a Press Release and a final amendment to 10 CFR Part 20 dealing with respiratory protection and other controls to restrict internal exposure of radiation workers. The amendment will be published in the Federal Register. The new rules will become effective 120 days from the date of publication.

These amendments are based in part on guidance developed by the American National Standards Institute and are consistent with new respiratory protection regulations published recently by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). These amendments provide greater assurance that recent technological advances in respiratory protection equipment and procedures are reflected in NRC regulations, and that workers' exposures will be maintained as low as is reasonably achievable.

The rules enhance worker protection, establish a less prescriptive framework and are estimated to reduce unnecessary licensee burden by about \$1.5 million per year with no reduction in worker health or safety. The Commission's rule is consistent with the general mandate of the Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-113) to utilize consensus standards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis K. Rathbun" with a stylized flourish below it.

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:

1. Federal Register Notice
2. Press Release

cc: Senator Bob Graham



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 13, 1999

The Honorable Joe L. Barton
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy
Committee on Commerce
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed for the information of the Subcommittee are copies of a Press Release and a final amendment to 10 CFR Part 20 dealing with respiratory protection and other controls to restrict internal exposure of radiation workers. The amendment will be published in the Federal Register. The new rules will become effective 120 days from the date of publication.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis K. Rathbun" with a small "Joe" written below it.

Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:

1. Federal Register Notice
2. Press Release

cc: Representative Ralph M. Hall



24722

Submission of Federal Rules Under the Congressional Review Act

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

GAO

Please fill the circles electronically or with black pen or #2 pencil.

1. Name of Department or Agency

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

2. Subdivision or Office

Office of Nuclear Reactor regulation

3. Rule Title

Respiratory Protection and Controls To Restrict Internal Exposures

4. Regulation Identifier Number (RIN) or Other Unique Identifier (if applicable)

RIN 3150-AF81

5. Major Rule Non-major Rule

6. Final Rule Other

7. With respect to this rule, did your agency solicit public comments?

Yes No N/A

8. Priority of Regulation (fill in one)

Economically Significant; or Significant; or Substantive, Nonsignificant

Routine and Frequent or Informational/Administrative/Other (Do not complete the other side of this form if filled in above.)

9. Effective Date (if applicable) 120 days after publication in the Federal Register

10. Concise Summary of Rule (fill in one or both)

attached stated in rule

Submitted by: Linda Portner (signature)

Name: Dennis K. Rathbun

Title: Director, Office of Congressional Affairs 10/13/99

For Congressional Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Committee of Jurisdiction: _____



24722

	Yes	No	N/A
A. With respect to this rule, did your agency prepare an analysis of costs and benefits?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
B. With respect to this rule, by the final rulemaking stage, did your agency			
1. certify that the rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under 5 U.S.C. § 605(b)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. prepare a final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis under 5 U.S.C. § 604(a)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
C. With respect to this rule, did your agency prepare a written statement under § 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
D. With respect to this rule, did your agency prepare an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
E. Does this rule contain a collection of information requiring OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
F. Did you discuss any of the following in the preamble to the rule?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12612, Federalism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12630, Government Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12875, Enhancing the Intergovernmental Partnership	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
• E.O. 12988, Civil Justice Reform	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
• E.O. 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
• Other statutes or executive orders discussed in the preamble concerning the rulemaking process (please specify) Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act			

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President of the Senate Speaker of the House of Representatives GAO

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RIN 3150-AF81

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6. Final Rule Other

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 Economically Significant; or Significant; or Substantive, Nonsignificant Routine and Frequent or Informational/Administrative/Other (Do not complete the other side of this form if filled in above.)

9. Effective Date (if applicable) 120 days after publication in the Federal Register

10. Concise Summary of Rule (fill in one or both) attached stated in rule

Submitted by: *Dennis K. Rathbun* (signature)

Name: Dennis K. Rathbun

Title: Director, Office of Congressional Affairs 10/13/99

For Congressional Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Committee of Jurisdiction: _____



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Submitted by: *Dennis K. Rathbun* (signature)

Name: Dennis K. Rathbun

Title: Director, Office of Congressional Affairs 10/13/99

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Original signed by LEPortner

for Dennis K. Rathbun, Director
Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosures:

1. Federal Register Notice
2. Press Release

cc: Senator Bob Graham

DISTRIBUTION:

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DATE	07/19/99	07/20/99	07/20/99	<i>9/2/99</i>

OFC	D:NRR	OCA <i>AP</i>
NAME	SCollins	DRathbun
DATE	07/28/99	<i>10/13/99</i>

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