

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
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Mr. Harold Price

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The enclosed copy is intended for publication on a feature page in PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS. Will you please review and return the copy with your comments and approval by November 23?

You may use the space below for your reply. A return envelope is enclosed.

/s/ Marcus Rosenblum
Executive Editor
PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS

Enclosure: S&S-63/59-HNC

Quote - The nucleonics industry has vigorously criticized the Atomic Energy Commission's proposed reactor-site criteria, specifically a rule decreasing radiation exposure limits and requiring new cumulative exposure reports to employees. Complaints state the rule would complicate employee-relations, impose unnecessary economic burdens, and seriously discourage industrial use of atomic energy.

Under the proposed changes, total external radiation exposure for any worker over 18 years of age would be limited to an average of 5 rems annually, reduced from 15 rems, with exposure in any one year limited to 12 rems. Maximum permissible concentrations of radioactive substances in air and water would be cut to one-third of present values in biologically important radioactive materials. And licensees would be required to give employees a report showing accumulated exposure, either annually or within 90 days of termination of employment. Employers would also be required to give workers an immediate report of overexposure. Unquote.

AEC Comments

12-1-59

Suggest following changes:

(a) Change first paragraph to read:

"The nucleonics industry has extensively commented on the Atomic Energy Commission's proposed rule amending its Part 20 regulation, 'Standards for Protection Against Radiation.' The proposed amendment would decrease radiation exposure limits and require that cumulative radiation reports be furnished to employees. Some of the comments complain that the rule would complicate employee-relations, impose unnecessary economic burdens, and seriously discourage industrial use of atomic energy."

(b) Second paragraph, second sentence is incorrect; suggest change to:

"Maximum permissible concentrations of radioactive substances in air and water would be changed to be consistent with the above dose limits."

(c) Change next to last sentence in second paragraph which is incorrect; suggest change to:

"Licensees would be required to give employees a report showing accumulated exposure annually and within 90 days of termination of employment."

12-1-59
14-1-59
Comments
A180