

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION &
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

May 12 1992 MAY 26 P2:27

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE 92-38: IMPLEMENTATION DATE FOR THE REVISION TO THE EPA
MANUAL OF PROTECTIVE ACTION GUIDES AND PROTECTIVE
ACTIONS FOR NUCLEAR INCIDENTS

Addressees

All holders of operating licenses or construction permits for nuclear power reactors, non-power reactors and materials licensees authorized to possess large quantities of radioactive material.

Purpose

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this information notice to notify addressees of a recent Commission decision that will affect the implementation date for the revised U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Manual of Protective Action Guides and Protective Actions for Nuclear Incidents. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their facilities and consider actions as appropriate. However, suggestions contained in this information notice are not NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

Description of Circumstances

On November 19, 1991, and January 23, 1992, the NRC issued Information Notices 91-72, "Issuance of a Revision to the EPA Manual of Protective Action Guides and Protective Actions for Nuclear Incidents" and 92-08, "Revised Protective Action Guidance for Nuclear Incidents," respectively, to notify licensees of a revision to EPA's Manual of Protective Action Guides and Protective Actions for Nuclear Incidents. EPA revised this manual to incorporate the current health physics practice for dose units and to expand the applicability of the guidance to include nuclear incidents for both commercial and Federal facilities.

The NRC agreed with EPA's recommendation to implement the manual revision concurrently with the revised Part 20 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations. The original dates for implementing the revised Part 20 were January 1, 1993, for NRC licensees, and January 1, 1994, for Agreement States.

On February 12, 1992, the Commission informed the NRC staff of its decision to delay the required implementation date of 10 CFR Part 20 for a period of 1 year to January 1, 1994. The staff has initiated the necessary rulemaking to reflect this delay. To be consistent with the change in the date for implementing 10 CFR Part 20, the addressees may delay for up to 1 year their implementation of the revision to EPA's Manual of Protective Action Guides and Protective

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LIST OF RECENTLY ISSUED
NRC INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date of Issuance	Issued to
92-37	Implementation of the Deliberate Misconduct Rule	05/08/92	All Nuclear Regulatory Commission Licensees.
92-16, Supp. 1	Loss of Flow from the Residual Heat Removal Pump during Refueling Cavity Drindown	05/07/92	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
92-36	Intersystem LOCA Outside Containment	05/07/92	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
92-35	Higher Than Predicted Erosion/Corrosion in Unisolable Reactor Coolant Pressure Boundary Piping Inside Containment at A Boiling Water Reactor	05/06/92	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
92-34	New Exposure Limits for Airborne Uranium and Thorium	05/06/92	All licensees whose operations can cause airborne concentrations of uranium and thorium.
92-33	Increased Instrument Response Time When Pressure Dampening Devices are Installed	04/30/92	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.
92-32	Problems Identified with Emergency Ventilation Systems for Near-Site (Within 10 Miles) Emergency Operations Facilities and Technical Support Centers	04/29/92	All holders of OLs or CPs for nuclear power reactors.

OL = Operating License
CP = Construction Permit

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NMSS INFORMATION NOTICES

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92-37	Implementation of the Deliberate Misconduct Rule	05/08/92	All Nuclear Regulatory Commission Licensees.
92-34	New Exposure Limits for Airborne Uranium and Thorium	05/06/92	All licensees whose operations can cause airborne concentrations of uranium and thorium.
92-14	Uranium Oxide Fires at Fuel Cycle Facilities	02/21/92	All fuel cycle and uranium fuel research and development licensees.
92-11	Soil and Water Contamination at Fuel Cycle Facilities	02/05/92	All uranium fuel fabrication and conversion facilities.
92-10	Brachytherapy Incidents Involving Iridium-192 Wire Used in Endobronchial Treatments	01/31/92	All Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensees authorized to use iridium-192 for brachytherapy; manufacturers and distributors of iridium-192 wire for use in brachytherapy.
92-08	Revised Protective Action Guidance for Nuclear Incidents	01/23/92	All fuel cycle and materials licensees authorized to possess large quantities of radioactive material.
91-86	New Reporting Requirements for Contamination Events at Medical Facilities (10 CFR 30.50)	12/27/91	All licensees authorized to use byproduct materials for human use.

The new revision to NRC Regulatory Guide 8.25, "Air Sampling In The Workplace," gives guidance for setting up an air-sampling program that can be used to estimate internal dose from airborne activity. The associated NUREG-1400 explains acceptable implementation of methods described in Regulatory Guide 8.25.

In addition, Table 2 of Appendix B to 10 CFR 20.1001-20.2401 places much more stringent limits on effluent concentrations for soluble uranium and thorium in water, and for thorium and insoluble uranium in air. The reduction in the allowable effluent concentrations to about a hundredth of the former values may necessitate changes in procedures or monitoring methods, or may even necessitate installation of new effluent treatment systems requiring appreciable lead time to procure.

This information notice requires no specific action or written response. If you have any questions about the information in this notice, please call the technical contact listed below or the appropriate NRC regional office.



Richard E. Cunningham, Director
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Technical contact: Edward Shum, NMSS
(301) 504-2607

Attachments:

1. List of Recently Issued NMSS Information Notices
2. List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

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91-84	Problems with Criticality Alarm Components/Systems	12/26/91	All Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) fuel cycle licensees, interim spent fuel storage licensees, and critical mass licensees.
91-71	Training and Supervision of Individuals Supervised by an Authorized User	11/12/91	All NRC medical licensees.