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CRITERIA TO BE USED WHEN DECIDING WHETHER TO WITHHOLD INFORMATION FROM THE PUBLIC

The staff should limit public release of information if it contains one or more elements from the following criteria.

1. Plant-specific information, generated by NRC or our licensees, that would clearly aid in planning an assault on a facility. An example might be drawings depicting the location of certain safety equipment within plant buildings. Examples may include portions of Final Safety Analysis Reports (FSARs), Individual Plant Examination (IPE) material, and other risk and facility vulnerability information.
2. Physical vulnerabilities or weaknesses of nuclear facilities which would clearly be useful to terrorists, such as site-specific security measures, access controls, or personnel clearance procedures.
3. Construction details of specific facilities, such as wall thicknesses or specific barrier dimensions, detailed diagrams, schematics, or cutaways of specific plant designs where such information would be of clear and significant benefit to a terrorist in a potential attack. Where appropriate, general descriptions instead of exact numbers (i.e. "several feet, several inches, layers of concrete") should be used for general public information.
4. Information which clearly would be useful to defeat or breach key barriers at nuclear facilities.
5. Information in any type of document (e.g. plant status report, press release) that provides the current status or configuration of systems and equipment that could be used to determine facility vulnerabilities if used by an adversary. This does not include general conditions such as 100 percent power or shutdown.

All new documents generated after the issuance date of this guidance should be reviewed against these criteria.

Information currently widely available to the public via ADAMS as of the issuance date of this guidance should not be systematically reviewed against these criteria. If a document is found to contain sensitive information, it should be carefully reviewed against these criteria while considering the cost of its removal from the public domain. However, publically available documents that were withdrawn in response to 9/11 events, should be reviewed against these criteria before being released again.

Finally, the NRC staff should continue withholding information such as proprietary, privacy, safeguards or classified information according to existing established guidance and procedures.

Consistent with

General categories of information that may now be released:

Performance indicators and inspection findings
OSRE findings that have been corrected
Plant status report (minus "reasons and comments" column)
Specific locations of licensed facilities

B-115