

*release*

**From:** Jon Johnson  
**To:** Borchardt, Richard; Case, Michael; Dean, William; Holahan, Gary; Matthews, David; Perch, Robert; Reckley, William; Sheron, Brian; Strosnider, Jack; Wray, John; Zwolinski, John  
**Date:** Mon, Oct 22, 2001 1:36 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Guidance on Release of Information to the Public

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Comments please to Bill Reckley who will forward to Mindy.

**CC:** Landau, Mindy

*DD-6*

**From:** Mindy Landau *EDO*  
**To:** Bruce Mallett; Carl Paperiello; Charles Miller; Donald Hassell; Elizabeth Hayden; Ellis Merschhoff; Frederick Combs; Hubert J. Miller; Jim Dyer; Jon Johnson; Karen Cyr; Margaret Federline; Roy Zimmerman; Stephen Burns; Stuart Reiter  
**Date:** Thu, Oct 18, 2001 5:07 PM  
**Subject:** Guidance on Release of Information to the Public

Based on the discussion at the ET meeting yesterday, (Regions could not be on the bridge), I have drafted some criteria for the staff to use in making decisions about releasing certain documents to the public. Please read the attached network announcement, which includes general criteria, and let me know your comments, revisions, etc., asap. We are anxious to get some guidance to the staff. Thanks.

**CC:** Patricia Norry

EBO

## DRAFT

### NETWORK ANNOUNCEMENT

Since the events of September 11, we have had to re-examine the types of information we are providing to the public. In the interim, the following criteria has been developed to assist the staff in deciding whether or not to release certain documents to the public, which includes posting them to the web and to the PARS public library in ADAMS.

This guidance is general, and we realize it is subject to multiple interpretations. We will likely use conservative criteria such as this for now, but may decide to become more flexible over time. To the extent you are unsure about whether a particular document should be made publicly available, contact your senior office management.

As you know, the external web page has been shut down and we are re-building it incrementally as we make decisions on which material can be appropriately posted. Since the web is easily accessible, we should keep posted material at the more conservative level. The criteria gives some guidance in this regard. We are aware that external organizations have material on their web sites that may be considered sensitive, and will be dealing with this on a case-by-case basis. Regarding our legal obligation to make certain information publically available, although such information may no longer appear on our web site, OGC has informed us that this obligation is met by publication in the Federal Register.

Public meetings should be conducted as before. As stated in the criteria, we believe it would be prudent for staff **not** to hold public meetings at licensee sites to limit availability of site addresses on the public meeting web site. If discussions at the meeting will cover material you believe is sensitive using the attached criteria, notify your office management. Each office will make the final decision on whether or not to hold the particular meeting, and on what type of material should be discussed. Offices need to take into consideration the fact that public meeting handouts and minutes are normally made publicly available.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) material is handled separately from this guidance and is subject to specific laws and statutes. Guidance on FOIA material will be sent to you separately, pending decisions from the Department of Justice. For now, handle and process all FOIA requests in the same manner as you have before.

NUREGs under development should also be evaluated against the criteria on a case-by-case basis by individual offices. Consider postponing publications of NUREGs which could contain sensitive information.

## DRAFT

### CRITERIA TO BE USED WHEN DECIDING TO RELEASE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

Consider **not** releasing a document if it contains:

- Documents that represent a consolidation or collection of plant- specific information that might be used to exploit **site-specific** features including equipment and specific facility locations (for example, Final Safety Analysis Reports FSARs), Plant Information Books, Emergency Plans, Individual Plant Examination for External Event (IPEEE) material, Operational Safeguards Response Evaluation material, risk-informed inspection notebooks).
- *Specific locations of the facility site should be avoided on information that is posted to the web. Limit these descriptions to city and state. Geospatial coordinates should not be made public through any means. As a practical matter, addresses on licensee correspondence can still be made public via ADAMS. Staff should re-consider holding public meetings at licensee sites to avoid posting site addresses on the public meeting web site.*
- Fairly major physical vulnerabilities or weaknesses, or potential weaknesses that could be useful to terrorists
- Construction details such as wall thicknesses or specific barrier dimensions. Detailed diagrams, schematics, or cutaways of plant designs. General descriptions instead of exact numbers (i.e. "several feet, several inches, layers of concrete") should be used for general public information.
- Information which could be useful to defeat or breach barriers