

QUESTIONS POSED TO TWO FEDERAL AGENCIES CONCERNING PUBLICLY-AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

BACKGROUND

On October 10, 2001 OCIO staff called two government agencies that distribute or sell NRC documents and posed three questions:

- Have other government agencies contacted them about their publicly-available documents?
- Have they assisted other government agencies in limiting access to or removing documents from public access?
- Did they have any advice for us in this matter?

RESPONSES

U.S. Government Printing Office:

Gil Baldwin (202-512-1114), Chief of the Library Division that operates the Federal Library Depository Program (GPO/FDLP) answered accordingly: Mr. Baldwin said only one other agency, the U.S. Geological Survey had requested the recent removal of a CD-ROM. He said no reason was given for the removal but surmised it was because of recent events. He said that if the NRC wanted any documents removed, destroyed or returned from selective or full depository libraries, the NRC needed to put the request in writing and then GPO/FDLP would contact participating libraries to have the documents removed. This procedure does not apply to those non-FDLP libraries with NRC collections. The NRC would have to contact those libraries individually and make any requests for document withdrawals.

As for NRC documents available for sale from GPO bookstores, **Joe McLean** (202-512-1705) was contacted because he is familiar with NRC documents. Mr. McLean has had no requests from other government agencies to withdraw materials for sale. NRC items for sale from GPO can be found at:

<http://bookstore.gpo.gov/sb/sb-200.html>

National Technical Information Service

Thomas Bold (703-605-6506), Director/Agency Liaison was contacted for NTIS. So far no agencies have contacted him about removing their documents for sale. Mr. Bold said that he would be the NTIS contact for any document removal and that all the NRC would have to do is e-mail him a list by title of all documents to be pulled. He mentioned two things: first, NTIS has all of the unclassified Department of Defense, NASA, and DOE documents for sale; second, he thought that the topic of a comprehensive document review might be a good issue for CENDI, an interagency group, to look at more closely.

No one had any advice for us in this matter and GPO's Mr. Baldwin acknowledged that when it came to reevaluating document categories as to their availability all of us are in uncharted waters.

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