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## **UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 7, 2000

**MEMORANDUM TO:** 

Those on the Attached List

FROM:

William F. Kane, Director

Office of Nuclear Material Safety

and Safeguards

Samuel J. Collins, Director

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT:

CASE-SPECIFIC LICENSING DECISIONS ON RELEASE OF

SOLID MATERIALS FROM LICENSED FACILITIES

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform staff within Headquarters and the Regional Offices of the approach that should be used at this time for making decisions on specific licensing actions, as well as any generic requests, concerning release of solid materials.

Existing NRC regulations do not contain generally applicable standards for the control of solid materials with relatively small amounts of radioactivity in, or on, materials and equipment. A paper has been provided to the Commission (SECY-00-0070) which recommends, in part, that a final decision be deferred on rulemaking on the control of solid materials, pending the outcome of a National Academy of Sciences study of alternatives. During this period, it is expected that licensees will continue to seek to release solid materials and that these will continue to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis using existing guidance, e.g. application of Regulatory Guide 1.86 and its equivalent, Fuel Cycle Policy and Guidance Directive FC 83-23, for materials licensees and Office of Inspection and Enforcement Circular 81-07 and Information Notices 85-92 and 88-22 for reactor facilities.

To ensure a consistent approach for controlling the release of solid materials, NRC reviews of licensee requests to release solid materials using criteria other than those in existing guidance are to be coordinated with NMSS or NRR Divisions. A list of staff contacts is provided in Attachment A. This approach will continue to remain in effect until Commission-directed studies, such as the NAS study, have been completed.

Attachment: As stated

CONTACT: Tony Huffert, NMSS/DWM

(301) 415-6416

## Attachment A

## List of NRC Staff Contacts for Requests Concerning the Release of Solid Materials

| NRC Office  | NRC Division   | Name               | Contact   |
|---|--|--------------------|---|
| Office of Nuclear<br>Materials Safety and<br>Safeguards | Division of Waste<br>Management                          | Tony Huffert       | Tel: 301-415-6416<br>Fax: 301-415-5398<br>email: <u>amh1@nrc.gov</u><br>Mail Stop: T8-F37 |
| Office of Nuclear<br>Materials Safety and<br>Safeguards | Division of<br>Industrial, Medical<br>and Nuclear Safety | Frank Cardile      | Tel: 301-415-6185<br>Fax: 301-415-5385<br>email: fpc@nrc.gov<br>Mail Stop: T9-F31         |
| Office of Nuclear<br>Reactor Regulation                 | Division of<br>Inspection Program<br>Management          | Steve Klementowicz | Tel: 301-415-1084<br>Fax: 301-415-2968<br>email: <u>sxk@nrc.gov</u><br>Mail Stop: 06-H16  |

MEMORANDUM TO: Those on the Attached List

Addressees - Memorandum Dated \_\_\_\_\_08/07/00

## SUBJECT:

CASE-SPECIFIC LICENSING DECISIONS ON RELEASE OF SOLID MATERIALS FROM LICENSED FACILITIES

John W. Craig Assistant for Operations

Joseph R. Gray, Associate General Counsel for Licensing and Regulation Office of the General Counsel

Ashok C. Thadani, Director Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Paul H. Lohaus, Director Office of State Programs

Janice Dunn Lee, Director
Office of International Programs

Hubert J. Miller, Administrator Region I

Luis A. Reyes, Administrator Region II

James E. Dyer, Administrator Region III

Ellis W. Merschoff, Administrator

Region IV

John Greeves, Director Division of Waste Management, NMSS

William Brach, Director Spent Fuel Project Office, NMSS

Donald Cool, Director Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

Mike Weber, Director Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, NMSS Add to the

Brian Sheron, Associate Director Project Licensing and Technical Analysis, NRR

Jon Johnson, Associate Director Inspection and Programs, NRR

John Zwolinski, Director Licensing and Project Management, NRR

Christopher Grimes, Chief License Renewal and Standardization Branch, NRR

Ledyard Marsh, Chief Events Assessment, Generic Communications, and Non-Power Reactors Branch, NRR

Cynthia Carpenter, Chief Generic Issues, Environmental, Financial, and Rulemaking Branch, NRR

Bruce Boger, Director
Inspection Program Management, NRR

Glen Tracy, Chief Operator Licensing, Human Performance, and Plant Support, NRR

Kathy Halvey Gibson, Chief Emergency Preparedness and Health Physics Section, NRR