

July 12, 2006

TO: LIBRARIES THAT WERE NRC LOCAL PUBLIC DOCUMENT ROOMS

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I would like to express NRC's appreciation for the support of each of the libraries and institutions that have housed the local public document rooms (LPDRs) over the past 35 years. Each of these institutions has played a valuable role in ensuring that the public had access to information regarding the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and NRC actions concerning the safe and effective regulation of its nearby nuclear facilities.

In April 1971, the AEC, now the NRC, instituted a program to establish local public document rooms (LPDRs) within a 50-mile radius of proposed nuclear power facilities upon receipt of a license application. The NRC's intent was to provide local area residents with access to documents considered during the licensing, construction, and operation of such facilities.

The NRC later expanded the LPDR program to include other types of NRC-licensed facilities. The formal LPDR program was discontinued in October 1999 when the NRC implemented the Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which allows the public to gain access to unclassified, nonsensitive NRC documents via the Internet. When ADAMS was implemented, the agency maintained 86 LPDRs in the vicinity of nuclear reactor and materials licensees. The NRC today maintains its Web site and ADAMS as the two principal means for the public to access NRC documents.

Recently, many of the former LPDRs received phone calls or site visits from NRC regional staff, who were determining the usage of the legacy collections in either paper or microfiche format. Some LPDR librarians may have been concerned by these calls or visits by the NRC staff, but the staff only wished to better understand the status of the collections and the types of documents in the existing collections.

From time to time over the last few years, some of the institutions that housed the LPDRs notified the NRC that they no longer wished to maintain their collections. The NRC previously had declined to accept these offers to return the collections to the NRC. However, the NRC will now accept the collections from any former LPDR that no longer wishes to house its collection of NRC documents and that is not a part of the Federal Depository Library Program.

Should you have any questions about your collection of NRC documents, please contact Susan Johnson, Chief, Information Services Branch, Information and Records Services Division, Office of Information Services, by phone at 301-415-7177 or by e-mail at [swj@nrc.gov](mailto:swj@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Edward T. Baker III, Director /RA/  
Office of Information Services

Should you have any questions about your collection of NRC documents, please contact Susan Johnson, Chief, Information Services Branch, Information and Records Services Division, Office of Information Services, by phone at 301-415-7177 or by e-mail at swj@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Edward T. Baker III, Director /RA/  
Office of Information Services

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Local Public Document Rooms

\*see previous concurrence

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