

Frequently Asked Questions: Regulatory Improvements to the Nuclear Material Management and Safeguards System

Associated with the proposed Nuclear Material Management Safeguards System (NMMSS) rulemaking, the NRC has received several telephone inquiries from the public regarding the reporting of inventory adjustments. The following is intended as an additional clarification.

Question: As part of the proposed NMMSS rulemaking, NRC is proposing to add to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 74, Section 74.15(a), a reporting requirement for licensees to submit a material transaction report when the inventory of special nuclear material (SNM) is adjusted in a quantity of one gram or more. Licensee staff have asked if it is the intent of the NRC for a licensee to report all inventory adjustments when they occur. For example, when a reactor is operating, does the NRC want the reactor operator to report on a daily basis the quantity of uranium that is consumed and the quantity of plutonium produced?

Answer: A licensee could choose regular submittals (i.e. daily) to report inventory adjustments. However, the NRC would expect that a licensee, at a minimum, report all inventory adjustments no later than when the licensee reports their physical inventory results to NMMSS (i.e. 12 months for power reactors). Without regular reporting of these adjustments, NMMSS values will not closely track licensee inventories or be easily reconciled with submitted inventory values.