

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS  
OFFICE OF NEW REACTORS  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AND STATE MATERIALS  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001

October 17, 2013

**NRC REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2013-17  
RESUMING NORMAL INTERACTIONS BETWEEN THE NRC  
AND NRC STAKEHOLDERS FOLLOWING AN AGENCY SHUTDOWN**

**ADDRESSEES**

All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensees, certificate holders, permit holders, and applicants; all Agreement and Non-Agreement States, and State Liaison Officers; and other interested stakeholders.

**INTENT**

The NRC is issuing this regulatory issue summary (RIS) to inform addressees that the NRC has resumed its normal operations.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The NRC's overarching mission is to license and regulate the Nation's civilian use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment. NRC regulation affects a variety of facilities including nuclear power plants, fuel manufacturers, industrial facilities, and academic and medical facilities, among others.

**SUMMARY OF ISSUES**

On September 30, 2013, no new appropriation or continuing resolution was passed. Consequently, the NRC began operating at a reduced level in a minimal maintenance and monitoring mode on October 9, 2013, when its carryover funds were exhausted, except for employees necessary to continue performing "excepted" functions. The NRC issued RIS 2013-16 and RIS 2013-16, Supplement 1, to describe how addressees should interact with the NRC during this period when employees were furloughed. The purpose of this RIS is to inform addressees that effective October 17, 2013 the NRC has been funded. The NRC has resumed normal operations, and the staff has resumed its duties. Please resume normal modes of communication and contacts with the NRC.

**ML110550924**

## **BACKFIT AND ISSUE FINALITY DISCUSSION**

The staff is not imposing on licensees any new or changed positions or regulatory requirements that constitute backfitting, as defined in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.109(a)(1), or a violation of any of the issue finality provisions in 10 CFR Part 52, nor is it proposing new or changed guidance that should be regarded as backfitting under Commission and Executive Director for Operations guidance. No action is required on the part of any licensee. Consequently, the staff did not perform a backfit analysis or otherwise prepare any documentation addressing issue finality criteria.

## **FEDERAL REGISTER NOTIFICATION**

The NRC did not publish a notice of opportunity for public comment on this RIS in the *Federal Register* because it pertains to an administrative aspect of the regulatory process.

## **CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT**

This RIS is not a rule as defined in the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 801–808).

## **PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT**

This RIS does not contain any information collection requirements and, therefore, is not subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.).

## **PUBLIC PROTECTION NOTIFICATION**

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a request for information or an information collection requirement unless the requesting document displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.

## CONTACTS

Please direct any questions about this matter to one of the technical contacts listed below.

**/RA/**

Mark D. Lombard, Director  
Division of Spent Fuel  
Storage and Transportation  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

**/RA/ Sher Bahadur Acting for**

Lawrence E. Kokajko, Director  
Division of Policy and Rulemaking  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

**/RA/**

Michael C. Cheok, Acting Director  
Division of Construction Inspection  
and Operational Programs  
Office of New Reactors

**/RA/ James Andersen Acting for**

Marissa G. Bailey, Director  
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety  
and Safeguards  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

**/RA/**

Pamela J. Henderson, Acting Director  
Division of Materials Safety and State  
Agreements  
Office of Federal and State Materials and  
Environmental Management Programs

Technical Contacts—Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation:

Thomas Alexion, NRR  
301-415-1326  
E-mail: [thomas.alexion@nrc.gov](mailto:thomas.alexion@nrc.gov)

Tanya Mensah, NRR  
301-415-3610  
E-mail: [tanya.mensah@nrc.gov](mailto:tanya.mensah@nrc.gov)

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**/RA/**  
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and Operational Programs  
Office of New Reactors

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**/RA/**  
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Thomas Alexion, NRR  
301-415-1326  
E-mail: [thomas.alexion@nrc.gov](mailto:thomas.alexion@nrc.gov)

Tanya Mensah, NRR  
301-415-3610  
E-mail: [tanya.mensah@nrc.gov](mailto:tanya.mensah@nrc.gov)

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\*via e-mail

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