

Withdrawal of Reg Guide 5.32 - Communication with Transport Vehicles

- 1. What does (did) the RG support?** 10 CFR Part 73, "Physical Protection of Plants and Materials".
- 2. What is (was) the purpose of the RG?** This guide, published in 1975, describes "pre-cellular" radiotelephone equipment and systems, and procedures for their use, that were acceptable to the NRC staff for complying with the Commission's regulations in place at the time regarding radiotelephone communication to be used during road or rail shipments of special nuclear material.
- 3. How is (was) the RG used?** The RG was used by licensees in the development of pre-cellular radiotelephone communication systems that the NRC found acceptable for complying with the regulations in place at the time, and was used by NRC staff in reviewing communication plans submitted by licensees to ensure compliance with the regulations in place at the time.
- 4. Why this RG is no longer needed?** Radiotelephone systems described in the RG are no longer available largely due to discontinued wide use during the 1980's in favor of more advanced communication systems. Other mobile voice, data and tracking technologies have replaced the systems described in the RG. The regulations discussing communication are established and measured by performance standards to meet identified communication objectives. The NRC does not require the use of the specific radiotelephones systems described in this RG, and they are not used.
- 5. What guidance is available if the RG is removed?** N/A. The guidance provided by this RG is specific to an outdated communication technology. There is no practical reason to provide alternative guidance dealing with a pre-cellular radiotelephone system that is no longer employed by licensees, and which is no longer required by the NRC. A licensee who meets the performance standards of their security plan can meet the requirements of the regulation.
- 6. What is the basis for believing that no guidance similar to that in the RG will ever be needed?** Mobile communication technology has, and will continue to change at a fast rate. Any guidance provided by NRC staff that discusses the details of specific mobile communication systems as RG 5.32 does runs the risk of being out-of-date soon after publication, quickly making it irrelevant and potentially limiting the communication options available to licensees.
- 7. Will generic guidance still be needed? If so, where is it located?** Generic guidance is available in RG 5.60, "Standard Format and Content of a Licensee Physical Protection Plan for Strategic Special Nuclear Material in Transit"; RG 5.56, "Standard Format and Content of Safeguards Contingency Plans for Transportation" and RG 5.63, "Physical Protection for Transient Shipments". Guidance will also be available for other types of RAM shipments in revisions to NUREG-0561, "Physical Protection of Shipments of Irradiated Reactor Fuel" and the guidance document accompanying the new 10 CFR Part 37 "Physical Protection of Byproduct Material".
- 8. What is the rationale for withdrawing this RG rather than revising it?** Portable communication technology has, and will continue to change at a fast rate. Revising the guidance provided in this RG by replacing the discussion on pre-cellular mobile radiotelephones with a discussion about the latest mobile communication systems runs the risk of being out-of-date soon after publication, quickly making it irrelevant and potentially limiting the communication options available to licensees.
- 9. Will withdrawing this RG adversely impact any current users?** No.