

Experiences with Complementary Access

- U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission -

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Complementary Access

- U.S. AP contains the same 24/2 hour complementary access (CA) requirements
 - Article 4 and Article 5 (same for non-nuclear weapon states)
- NRC is responsible for IAEA access at NRC licensed facilities (DOE will have lead in some cases)
 - Traditional INFCIRC/153 type inspections
 - Complementary Access
- Complementary access provisions were built into the revised regulations
 - Previous versions of the regulations only addressed ad hoc, routine, and special inspections under the U.S. Voluntary Offer
- So far, IAEA has only selected NRC facilities for complementary accesses
 - NRC led the U.S. Host Team (U.S. Government staff)

Planning and Preparation

- What is needed to be successful?
 - Planning
 - People
 - Practice
- How can an organization best prepare?
 - Mock complementary accesses
 - Internal guidance (procedures, roles and responsibilities, etc...)
 - Coordination with other organizations and individuals
- Anticipate potential problems
 - What is the worst that could happen?
 - Where will problems most likely occur?

Internal Guidance

- An organization needs to have some form of guidance in place that addresses complementary access
- NRC drafted internal guidance on the steps and processes to follow during a CA
 - Background information
 - Contact information
 - Communication and coordination procedures
 - Pre-drafted letters to licensees
 - On-site check lists
 - etc...
- Check lists are very simple ways to cover all the necessary points
 - Determined to be the most valuable part of our guidance

Outreach and Education

- After implementation, NRC conducted targeted outreach focusing on CA and necessary preparations
 - Strong emphasis on ensuring NRC licensees understood the need for timely access to facilities
 - **Many licensees had no prior experience with IAEA access at their facilities**
- Declared activities and locations will dictate the need to conduct outreach and education
 - What could the IAEA visit? Who do you need to educate? In what priority?
- Important to educate both external and internal stakeholders
 - External: Companies, facilities, industry organizations, ...
 - Internal: Government agencies, officials, internal management, ...
- Mock complementary access
 - Trains, familiarizes, and educates everyone involved

On-site Activities

- Example schedule (simplified):
 - (5:00PM) Arrive night before
 - (7:00AM) Early morning meeting with facility
 - (8:45AM) IAEA arrives
 - (9:15AM) Entrance meeting
 - **(No Later Than 10:45AM) Arrive at first location of interest on site**
 - Conduct CA
 - (12:00PM) Exit meeting with IAEA
 - (12:30PM) Exit meeting between Government staff and Facility staff
- Article 6 contains the IAEA’s authorized activities
 - Understand what this means
 - Could/should you allow more?

Managed Access

- **Managed access is...**
 - A way to protect proprietary and sensitive processes/information
 - A way to keep participants safe (10 CFR 75.8.h)
 - A process involving negotiation
- **Managed access is not...**
 - A way to keep the IAEA from showing up to the facility
 - A way to keep the IAEA out of inconvenient rooms or areas of a facility
 - A way to save time and money
- **NRC regulations require notification of any need for managed access (10 CFR 75.11.d)**
 - Very few, if any, licensees have provided information...why?

On-site Activities

- **Entrance Meeting:**
 - Introductions
 - Discuss purpose of CA; proposed activities; areas of access
 - Health and safety; managed access; equipment use
- **Exit Meeting:**
 - Review findings/questions
 - Verify the IAEA is satisfied with the level of access
 - Assign follow up
- **The IAEA should clearly highlight what they want to see and under what authority**
- **Be cooperative!**
 - IAEA is there for a reason; not looking to “trick” you

Considerations and Observations

- Size and type of facility
 - Large vs. Small
 - Government vs. Private industry
 - Academic vs. Factory setting
- Organization of Government of Vietnam staff
 - Total number of on-site staff?
 - Team Leader?
- Interface between Government, Facility, and IAEA
 - How does communication work?
- **IAEA inspectors have been very professional and understanding in NRC experiences**
- Facilities have been very helpful once they understand the purpose and scope of a complementary access (and their protections)

Lessons Learned (CA)

- **Low probability, high consequence**
 - Government and facilities need to be prepared for a CA
 - Balance against fact that CA should not be systematic or mechanistic
- **Communication is very important**
 - Internal (NRC), U.S. Government, Facility, IAEA
- **Prepare documents ahead of time**
 - Official notification, letters to licensee, etc...
- **Have roles and responsibilities assigned ahead of time**
- **Meet with facility operators/staff before the IAEA arrive**
 - Walk through of the facility
 - Discuss health and safety concerns
 - Review managed access

Lessons Learned (CA)

- Be knowledgeable about the facility and AP declaration
- Keep the CA team small
 - Less burden on licensee, easier to maintain control
- Must have staff prepared to respond to a CA
 - Should be “on call”
 - Able to respond to the location as soon as possible
- Have one staff member at HQ dedicated to providing support for the CA host team
 - Small impact on resources, large potential benefit