

May 30, 2013

Jean Staton
Corporate RSO
Materials Evaluation &
Technology Corporation
27 Sawyer Street
Beaumont, TX 77702

Dear Jean Staton:

This letter is in response to the comment that you submitted electronically to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on May 2, 2013. You asked why the language used in the *Code of Federal Regulations* isn't more user friendly. You also suggested that the use of "technical jargon" could leave a rule open for interpretation.

The NRC strives to write its documents in a clear, concise, and well-organized manner. The NRC complies with the Plain Writing Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111-274), as well as the Presidential Memorandum "Plain Language in Government Writing" (63 FR 31885; June 10, 1998).

As NRC documents frequently address complex technical subjects, the use of technical language is sometimes necessary to adequately discuss the relevant issues. The NRC specifically requests public comment on each of its proposed rules with respect to the clarity and effectiveness of the language we have proposed to use in the rule. The NRC considers the public comments it receives on a proposed rule, including those on its use of plain language, as it develops the final rule. On occasion, the NRC publishes preliminary rule language for public comment before it publishes a proposed or final rule, and in some instances the NRC holds a public meeting to discuss and seek public comment on preliminary rule language.

The NRC has concluded that this process results in clear, user-friendly language that is adequate to address the technical issues common to NRC documents.

Thank you for your comments and your interest in the NRC's regulations. If you have questions, please contact me at 301-492-3679 (e-mail: Leslie.Terry@nrc.gov) or Cindy Bladey at 301-492-3667 (e-mail: Cindy.Bladey@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Leslie Terry, Acting Chief
Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Office of Administration