

Department of Energy

Nuclear Energy Oak Ridge Site Office P. O. Box 2001 Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

November 13, 2013

Mr. Brian W. Smith, Chief
Enrichment and Conversion Branch
Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
MS: 3WFN-13C64
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Smith:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY – GUIDANCE ON USE OF WIRELESS TRANSMITTING DEVICES, REVISION 1

Enclosed is Revision 1 of the subject guidance regarding use of wireless transmitting devices in classified areas which have Department of Energy (DOE) authorized and/or accredited classified cyber networks. This revised information is being provided as a result of questions from Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility personnel on the guidance provided in my letter to you dated August 29, 2013. Please provide this guidance to all Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensees with DOE authorized networks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (865) 576-2535 or Randall DeVault at (865) 241-8277.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Perkins, Acting Manager

Nuclear Energy

Oak Ridge Site Office

Enclosure:

DOE - Guidance on Use of Wireless Transmitting Devices in Classified Areas, Revision 1

cc w/enclosure:

R. DeVault, NE-OR3, NE-ORSO

M. Heiskell, NE-OR2, NE-ORSO

D. King, NE-OR3, NE-ORSO/PORTS

Q. Nguyen, AD-41, ORO

S. Rice, OS-201, NE-ORSO

K. Everly, NRC

Department of Energy (DOE) Guidance Use of Wireless Transmitting Devices in Classified Areas Revision 1

DOE has extensive TEMPEST requirements and procedures that must be followed in the event it is necessary to operate RF transmitters (wireless transmitting devices) in the vicinity of classified processing and, therefore, blanket approval for the use of wireless transmitting devices in a classified environment is not granted. Due to the mobility of these devices, it is not possible to ensure that required measures are always followed. This, coupled with DOE Operations Security (OPSEC) and Physical Security determinations that wireless transmitting devices are prohibited items in classified areas, has resulted in the DOE Designated Approval Authority's (DAA) determination that wireless transmitting device usage is a vulnerability that cannot be accepted. Excepted is usage of wireless transmitting devices for personnel safety and/or where usage is so limited it has been previously determined that the vulnerability is negligible. As such, the DOE DAA has determined that for Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licensees only permanent Protective Force and emergency services (i.e., Firemen and Emergency Medical Technicians) personnel (i.e., those licensee staff whose primary duties involve these activities) who require wireless transmitting devices to perform their duties are permitted to possess and use wireless transmitting devices during official duties in a classified environment. In addition, in response to emergencies, off-site responders are also permitted to possess and use wireless transmitting devices in a classified environment.

If a licensee intends to use any type of wireless transmitting device (e.g., limited range devices like proximity cards, bar code readers, automatic door openers, etc.) other than as described above in a classified environment, NRC and DOE DAA must be consulted, and each request will be referred to the Nuclear Energy Oak Ridge Site Office TEMPEST Coordinator to determine if a review by the DOE Certified TEMPEST Technical Authority is required, and what TEMPEST measures (if needed) must be taken prior to use. Each wireless transmitting device, and the environment in which it will be operated, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.