

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

May 12, 2014

**NRC REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2014-04  
NATIONAL SOURCE TRACKING SYSTEM  
LONG-TERM STORAGE INDICATOR**

**ADDRESSEES**

All licensees possessing Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of sealed sources reportable to the National Source Tracking System (NSTS).

All Agreement State Radiation Control Program Directors.

All holders of an operating license or construction permit for a nuclear power reactor under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," except those who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel.

All holders of an operating license for a non-power reactor (research reactor, test reactor, or critical assembly) under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities," except for those who have permanently ceased operations.

**INTENT**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing this Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) to encourage licensees on a voluntary basis, to submit additional information pertaining to sources identified in Long Term Storage in the NSTS to include the "use status" of their sealed sources (i.e., whether or not their sources are in use or have become disused). No specific action or any written response is required. The NRC is providing this RIS to the Agreement States for their information and for distribution to their licensees as appropriate.

**BACKGROUND**

Every year, thousands of sources become disused and unwanted in the United States. While secure storage is a temporary measure, the longer sources remain disused or unwanted, the chances increase that they will become unsecured or abandoned.

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These sources have been the focus of much interagency attention from a national security standpoint since the publication of the [2006 Radiation Source Protection and Security Task Force Report](#). However, in many cases, disposal pathways are not currently available for disused sealed sources (and there are restricted options for storage of no-disposal-pathway waste).

The [2010 Radiation Source Protection and Security Task Force Report](#) recommended that the NRC request additional information from licensees about their sealed sources in storage. Sharing sealed source use-status information will encourage more efficient sealed source management, as well as the timely disposal of disused and unwanted sealed sources, some of which now have a commercial disposal pathway.

## **SUMMARY OF ISSUE**

Licensees have been reporting Category 1 and Category 2 radioactive source transactions to the NSTS since January 2009 in accordance to 10 CFR 20.2207 requirements. Types of reportable transactions include the manufacture, transfer, receipt, disassembly, and disposal of Category 1 and Category 2 sources. Additionally, the regulation requires licensees to annually verify their inventory of nationally tracked sources possessed against the inventory in the NSTS.

However, licensees are not required to report to Federal or State regulators the “use status” of their sealed sources (i.e., whether or not their sources are in use or have become disused).

Sharing the use-status of sealed sources would benefit both licensees and regulators. For licensees, such a practice will encourage increased awareness of, and attention to, effective disused sealed source management, which may include financial and logistical planning for disposal, including related transportation costs and challenges. For sealed sources without a commercial disposal pathway, planning may involve coordination with source recyclers (including manufacturers), or Federal programs which facilitate the recovery and disposition of disused sources. This type of attention and planning will not only facilitate timelier sealed source disposition, but also increase licensee awareness of the national security and public health and safety concerns related to keeping disused and unwanted sealed sources in storage for longer than necessary.

For regulators, use-status information will increase their awareness of how many sealed sources under their purview are disused and in storage, where they are located, and what types of disposal challenges their licensees may encounter. For both regulators and licensees, this type of information sharing will improve the quality and efficiency of sealed source management and disposition, which, in turn, will benefit national security, public health, and safety.

Licensees who would like to provide this status information can specify the sources are in “Long-Term Storage” in NSTS, or they can indicate the status in their NSTS transaction reports.

Licensees using the NSTS online can indicate long-term storage of sources as follows:

1. On the NSTS Main Menu, click “Specify Long-Term Storage Sources.”
2. Enter the “Make,” “Model,” and “Serial Number” to locate the source, or click “Search” to see all sources in the inventory.
3. Click the “Select” radio button to select the source and click “Specify Long-Term Storage.”

4. Enter a date in the “Long-Term Storage” date field and enter text in the “Long-Term Storage Reason” field.
5. Comment field is optional.
6. Click “Save.”

Licensees reporting source transaction information using NRC Form 748 can provide the long-term storage information in the “Comment” field on the transaction report. Sample text is provided below:

“This source is in long-term storage as of mm/dd/yyyy because it is no longer in use and a current disposal path is not available.”

Additional information on reporting to the NSTS is available on the NSTS Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/security/byproduct/ism/nsts.html>). Licensees with questions on how to use the NSTS or who wish to have online access to the NSTS can contact the NSTS Help Desk:

<b>Hours:</b>	Monday – Friday: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm (ET)
<b>Phone:</b>	1-877-671-6787
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:NSTSHelp@nrc.gov">NSTSHelp@nrc.gov</a>

## **BACKFIT DISCUSSION**

This RIS requires no action or written response and the backfit rule (10 CFR 50.109, 70.76, 72.62, or 76.76) does not apply. Consequently, the NRC staff did not perform a backfit rule analysis.

## **FEDERAL REGISTER NOTIFICATION**

A notice of opportunity for public comment on this RIS was not published in the *Federal Register* because it is informational and does not represent a departure from current regulatory requirements.

## **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 contains information collection requirements that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collection requirements were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0202.

## **PUBLIC PROTECTION NOTIFICATION**

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

## **CONTACT**

This RIS requires neither specific action nor written response. If you have any questions about this summary, please contact the technical contact listed below or the appropriate regional office.

Contact: Angela Randall, FSME  
(301) 415-6806  
E-mail: [Angela.Randall@nrc.gov](mailto:Angela.Randall@nrc.gov)

**/RA/**

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

**/RA/**

Laura A. Dudes, Director  
Division of Materials Safety and  
State Agreements  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

**/RA/**

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

**/RA/**

Michael C. Cheok, Director  
Division of Construction Inspection  
Operational Programs  
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Enclosure:  
Recently Issue FSME  
Generic Communications

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**ML14100A152**

FSME:SMPB	FSME:RMSB	FSME:SMPB	FSME:RMSB
ARandall	AMcIntosh	AGiantelli	CEinberg
2/28/14	2/28/14	2/28/14	3/25/14
FSME:ASPB	NRR:DRA/ARCB	RegionI	NSIR
DWhite	UShoop	BWelling	CGrigsby
3/25/14	4/16/14	3/11/14	3/11/14
NMSS	NMSS	NRR	NRO
SAtack	MBailey	JKeene	JGaslevic
3/10/14	4/21/14	3/10/14	3/7/14
OIS	OGC-CRA	OGC-NLO	NRR/DPR/PGCB-BC
KBenney	BJones	JOlmstead	SStuchell
4 /3 /14	4/17/14	4 /8 /14	4/25/14
NRR/DPR/DD	NRR:DRP – D	NRO	D:MSSA
SBahadur	LKokajko	MCheck	LDudes
4/29/14	4/30/14	4/18/14	5/12/14

List of Recently Issued Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs Generic Communications			
Date	GC No.	Subject	Addressees
04/28/2014	IN-2014-06	Damage of Industrial Radiographic Equipment due to Falling Equipment and Improper Mounting	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission material licensees possessing industrial radiographic equipment, regulated under 10 CFR Part 34; all Agreement States Radiation Control Program Directors; all holders of and users of a transportation package certificate of compliance under Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) Part 71, "Packaging and Transportation of Radioactive Material," that possess industrial radiographic equipment regulated under 10 CFR Part 34, and all holders of or applicants for an early site permit, standard design certification, standard design approval, manufacturing license, or combined license under 10 CFR Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Plants."
04/16/2014	RIS-2014-02	Withdrawal of NRC Generic Letter 95-08, "10 CFR 50.54(p) Process for Changes to Security Plans Without Prior NRC Approval"	All holders of and applicants for construction permits or operating licenses for nuclear power reactors under the provisions of Title 10, "Energy," of the <i>Code of Federal Regulations</i> (10 CFR) Part 50, "Domestic Licensing of Production and Utilization Facilities." All holders of and applicants for a combined license, standard design approval, or manufacturing license under 10 CFR Part 52, "Licenses, Certifications, and Approvals for Nuclear Power Reactors." All applicants for a standard design certification, including such applicants after initial issuance of a design certification rule.

List of Recently Issued Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs Generic Communications			
Date	GC No.	Subject	Addressees
03/13/2014	RIS-2014-03	Notice of 10 CFR Part 37 Implementation Deadline for NRC Licensees	All holders of and applicants for U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) licenses that possess Category 1 and Category 2 quantities of radioactive material, NRC Master Material Licensees, Agreement State Radiation Control Program Directors, and State Liaison Officers
03/04/2014	IN-99-03, Rev. 1	Exothermic Reactions Involving Dried Uranium Oxide Powder (Yellowcake)	All operating uranium recovery facilities that produce uranium oxide powder (yellowcake). All Agreement States with the authority to regulate uranium mills (i.e., Utah, Colorado, Texas, Ohio, Illinois, and Washington).
01/10/2014	RIS-2014-01	Regulatory Requirements for Withholding of Proprietary Information from Public Disclosure	All distributors of general license devices submitting a request that information be withheld from public disclosure under the provisions of Title 10 of the <i>Code of Federal Regulations</i> Section 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding." All Agreement and Non-Agreement States, and State Liaison Officers.
11/15/2013	IN-2013-22	Recent Licensing Submittals Containing Personally Identifiable Information	All materials licensees, certificate holders, applicants, and other entities subject to regulation by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the use of source, byproduct, and special nuclear material. All Radiation Control Program Directors and State Liaison Officers.
<p>Note: This list contains the six most recently issued generic communications, issued by the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs. A full listing of all generic communications may be viewed at the NRC public Web site at the following address:  <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/index.html">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/index.html</a></p>			