

November 14, 2014

MEMORANDUM TO: Scott Moore, Deputy Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Brian McDermott, Deputy Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

John D. Monninger, Director
Division of Safety Systems and Risk Assessment
Office of New Reactors

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

FROM: Brian E. Thomas, Standards Executive */RA/*
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INPUT TO FY2014 REPORT ON AGENCY
USE OF STANDARDS

In Circular A-119, "Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities," dated February 19, 1998, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requires each Federal agency to submit an annual report on the status of agency interaction with voluntary standards bodies. Circular A-119 further requires each agency to provide in its annual report specific information required by Public Law 104-113, "The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995." Among other things, each agency must report the number of agency representatives on standards development committees, provide the number of voluntary consensus standards used during the year, and explain all instances of the agency's use of new "Government-unique standards" (i.e., technical standards developed by the Government for its own use) in lieu of voluntary consensus standards.

Consistent with the requirements of Circular A-119, the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) is requesting input from your offices for the NRC's Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 annual report on the agency's development and use of voluntary consensus standards. We would appreciate receiving your inputs no later than November 28, 2014. In addition, we would appreciate your timely cooperation in identifying an office contact person with whom the RES staff can discuss this request as we assemble the information for NIST.

CONTACT: Carol E. Moyer, RES/DE
(301) 251-7641

For your information, Enclosure 1 to this memorandum conveys the NIST questions that the NRC must address for FY 2014 (also available in ADAMS at ML14311A425). On the list of questions shown below, Questions 2, 3, and the first part of Question 4 are the questions for which RES needs your input. For the remaining questions, RES believes we already have sufficient information for our report, but additional comments are welcome.

(1) Question 2: Please list all Government-unique standards (GUS) that your office used in lieu of voluntary consensus standards (VCS) during FY 2014. Provide a rationale for each instance of a GUS used in lieu of an existing VCS.

(2) Question 3: Please list any VCS that your office substituted for GUS in FY 2014 as a result of review under Section 15(b)(7) of OMB Circular A-119.

(3) Question 4: Please provide the total number of VCS your office BEGAN to use during FY 2014.

In preparing your office input, please provide (as a minimum) responses to these three questions. We also encourage you to provide input for any of the other questions listed in the Enclosure 1 to this memorandum.

NRC's A-119 annual report to NIST for FY 2013 can be found in ADAMS at ML13357A716. If you or your staff needs additional information, please contact Brian E. Thomas, NRC Standards Executive (301-251-7448 or Brian.Thomas@nrc.gov) or Carol Moyer (301-251-7641 or Carol.Moyer@nrc.gov).

Enclosure:
As stated

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Enclosure:
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