

This page provides an abstract, justification, and target dates for a potential rule that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has prioritized in its Common Prioritization of Rulemaking listing.

Please visit the [Rulemaking Priorities](#) page on the NRC's public Web site for additional information about this page and to view the entire Common Prioritization of Rulemaking listing.

<b>Drug and Alcohol Testing; Technical Issues and Editorial Changes</b>				
<b>Abstract</b>				
<p>This rulemaking proposes to amend the Commission's regulations to strengthen technical provisions associated with drug testing requirements and enhance other requirements necessary to provide reasonable assurance that persons who have unescorted access to NRC-licensed facilities are fit for duty. Specifically, this rulemaking will propose to address synthetic marijuana and cathinones and semi-synthetic opiates; prescription shopping; drug cocktailing; access to state databases for prescription medications; use of a spouse's prescription; point-of-collection testing using oral fluids or urine; hair testing for pre-access authorization; expansion of for-cause testing provisions; clarification of the 50-percent random testing rate; synthetic urine and other adulteration/subversion issues; two petitions for rulemaking associated with substance abuse professionals; one petition for rulemaking associated with synthetic drug use; and other issues identified through inspector and licensee lessons learned. Conforming changes will also be assessed to better align the Part 26 requirements with similar requirements in Part 55 and Part 73. This rulemaking will also include discussion of PRM-26-4, PRM-26-7, and PRM-26-8.</p>				
<b>Justification</b>				
<p>The rule scores 37 points (14,10,8,5) because of the following reasons: A) Significant contributor to the Safety goal (Strategies 1 &amp; 4); B) Significant contributor to Regulatory Effectiveness (Strategies 1, 2, &amp; 3); C) Significant contributor to one or more considerations (significant regulatory gap and future regulatory benefit); and D) Addresses PRM-26-4, PRM-26-7, and PRM-26-8.</p>				
<b>Start Dates</b>	<b>Reg Basis Completed</b>	<b>PR Sent to Comm/EDO</b>	<b>FR Sent to Comm/EDO</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>
02/01/2011	12/01/2016	03/31/2017	02/01/2018	01/01/2019