



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 17, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: Josephine M. Piccone, Director
Division of Material Safety, State, Tribal
and Rulemaking Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Hipolito J. Gonzalez, Chief */RA/*
Materials Safety Licensing Branch
Division of Material Safety, State, Tribal
and Rulemaking Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH NUREG-1556,
VOLUME 3, REVISION 2 "CONSOLIDATED GUIDANCE ABOUT
MATERIALS LICENSES – APPLICATIONS FOR SEALED
SOURCE AND DEVICE EVALUATION AND REGISTRATION"

Enclosed for your review and authorization is a copy of Revision 2 to NUREG-1556, Volume 3, "Consolidated Guidance about Materials Licenses – Applications for Sealed Source and Device Evaluation and Registration" (Enclosure 1) along with NRC Form 426, "Authorization to Publish A Manuscript in the NUREG Series" (Enclosure 2).

In response to the vulnerabilities to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory (NRC) licensing program described in SECY-07-0147, "Response to U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) Recommendations and Other Recommendations to Address Security Issues in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Materials Program," dated August 25, 2007, the NRC staff developed an action plan to address needed changes in the NRC's radioactive materials licensing process. In a Staff Requirements Memorandum dated September 18, 2007, the Commission approved the action plan. The staff established working groups to implement the action plan, offer recommendations, and identify long-term and short-term strategies. The Materials Program Working Group (MPWG) and Independent External Review Panel (IERP) made several recommendations on the use of the good-faith presumption concept in the licensing process, lack of security in licensing guidance, adoption of a security mindset by licensing and inspection

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staff, and process improvements for licensing and inspection training. Joint NRC/Agreement State Working Groups (WGs) were subsequently established to update the NUREG-1556 volumes and incorporate the recommendations from the MPWG and the IERP.

The WGs operate under NRC Management Directive 5.3, "Agreement State Participation in Working Groups," dated August 22, 2007. The WGs comprise of subject matter experts for the type of license described in the particular volume of NUREG-1556. The lead for each WG is an individual from the NRC in the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards or the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety from the regional offices.

NUREG-1556, Volume 3, Revision 0 was published in July 1998 and provided guidance to applicants and licensees for submitting requests for sealed source or device safety evaluations and to the NRC staff and Agreement States for reviewing information and materials necessary to determine that the products are acceptable for licensing purposes. In April 2004, NUREG-1156, Volume 3, Revision 1 was published with updated information. The NRC staff, Agreement States, applicants, and licensees make extensive use of this volume. This revision to NUREG-1556, Volume 3 provides the following: (1) incorporates requirements for the security of licensed material, (2) removes any information that warrants security protection, and (3) updates guidance to reflect regulatory and procedural changes that have occurred since this volume was last published. These guidelines do not replace or change any NRC regulatory requirements.

If you have any questions regarding this revision to NUREG-1556, Volume 3, please contact Tony McMurtray at 301-415-2746 or Lymari Sepulveda at 301-415-5619.

Enclosures:

1. Revision 2 to NUREG-1556, Volume 3,
"Consolidated Guidance about Materials
Licenses – Applications for Sealed Source
and Device Evaluation and Registration"
2. NRC Form 426

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