



**Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Procedure Approval**

***Reviewing the Common Performance Indicator,
Technical Quality of Incident and Allegation
Activities - SA-105***

Issue Date:

Review Date:

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NOTE

***Any changes to the procedure will be the responsibility of the NMSS Procedure Contact.
Copies of the NMSS procedures will be available through the NRC Web site.***

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. This document describes the procedure for conducting reviews of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Regional and Agreement State radioactive materials programs using the common performance indicator, Technical Quality of Incident and Allegation Activities [NRC [Management Directive \(MD\) 5.6](#), *Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP)*.]
- B. As used in this procedure, the term "incident"¹ applies to an event that may have caused, or threatens to cause, conditions described in Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 20.1906, 20.2201 through 20.2203, 10 CFR 30.50, 10 CFR 31.5, 10 CFR 34.27, 10 CFR 34.101, 10 CFR 35.3045, 10 CFR 35.3047, 10 CFR 35.3067, 10 CFR 36.83, 10 CFR 37.57, 10 CFR 37.81, 10 CFR 39.35, 10 CFR 39.77, 10 CFR 40.60, 10 CFR 70.50, 10 CFR 71.95, 49 CFR 171.15, or the equivalent Agreement State regulations, or other regulatory reporting requirements imposed by order or license condition. If an Agreement State defines this term in a different fashion, this should be noted during the course of the review.
- C. As used in this procedure, the NRC uses the term "allegation" to mean a declaration, statement, or assertion of impropriety or inadequacy associated with NRC and/or Agreement State regulated activities, the validity of which has not been established. For this procedure, this term also includes all concerns identified by sources external to Agreement State staff such as the media, individuals, or organizations. Excluded from this definition are matters being handled by more formal processes, such as 10 CFR 2.206 petitions, hearing boards, and appeal boards. For the purposes of this procedure, the terms "allegations" and "concerns" may be used interchangeably. If an Agreement State program defines this term in a different fashion, this should be noted during the course of the review.

II. OBJECTIVES

- A. To assure that actions taken in response to incidents or allegations are appropriate, well-coordinated, and timely.
- B. To verify that NRC Regions and Agreement States have appropriate incident and allegation response procedures in place and that the procedures are followed.
- C. To confirm that NRC Regions and Agreement States take appropriate measures to follow up on licensee corrective actions that were implemented in response to incidents and/or allegations to ensure compliance.

¹ An event or condition that has the possibility of affecting public health and safety such as overexposure, damage to equipment or facility, release of radioactive material, equipment or procedure failure, lost/stolen/abandoned radioactive material, leaking source, contamination event, transportation, loss of control, medical event, etc.

D. For incidents:

1. To ensure that the level of effort in responding to an incident is commensurate with potential health, safety, and security significance.
2. To confirm that follow-up inspections are scheduled and completed, if necessary.
3. For Agreement State reviews, to confirm that notification to the NRC, as appropriate, is performed in a timely manner and in accordance with the Handbook on Nuclear Material Event Reporting in the Agreement States (NMSS Procedure [SA-300, Reporting Material Events](#)).
4. To verify that the information provided by the NRC Regions and Agreement States on incidents for inclusion in the Nuclear Material Events Database (NMED) is timely and complete.

E. For allegations:

1. To ensure that the level of effort in responding to an allegation is commensurate with potential health, safety, and security significance.
2. To confirm that allegations are addressed in a timely manner.
3. To verify that if an allegation is received by the NRC that is within the State's purview, the NRC provides the allegation to the Agreement State in a timely manner.
4. To verify that Agreement States are properly handling all allegations referred to the State from NRC (e.g., that safety and security issues are addressed properly and in as timely a manner as is appropriate, and feedback is provided to concerned individuals) in addition to the general sampling of allegations involving Section 274b radioactive materials (e.g., material as described in Section 274b of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2021(b))).
5. To confirm that the concerned individual is informed of the findings in a timely manner, if the concerned individual's identity is known.

III. BACKGROUND

The effectiveness, thoroughness, and timeliness of a regulator's response to incidents and allegations can have a direct impact on public health, safety, and security. A careful assessment of incident response and allegation investigation, including internal and external coordination and investigative and follow-up actions, is a significant indication of the overall quality of the program.

IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Team Leader

Determines which team member(s) is assigned lead review responsibility for this performance indicator. In order to limit knowledge of concerned individuals' identities, only NRC staff should review NRC Regional Office allegations.

B. Principal Reviewer

1. Meets the appropriate requirements specified in [MD 5.10](#), *Formal Qualifications for Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) Team Members and NMSS Procedure [SA-111](#), Implementation of Management Directive 5.10, Formal Qualifications for IMPEP Team Members*.
2. Is familiar with [MD 8.8](#), *Management of Allegations*; NMSS Procedure [SA-300](#); the NRC Allegation Manual, NMSS Procedure [SA-400](#), *Management of Allegations*; NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2800, *Materials Inspection Program*; NUREG-0090 *Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences*; applicable NRC and/or Agreement State regulations; and the operation of NMED.
3. Informs the Team Leader of the Team's findings throughout the onsite review.
4. Completes their portion of the IMPEP written report for the performance indicator(s) reviewed.
5. Participates in IMPEP Management Review Board meeting for the review and discusses his or her findings, (this can be done either in person or via teleconference).

V. GUIDANCE

A. Scope

1. This procedure applies to all incident response and allegation activities that occurred in the period of time since the last IMPEP review. Incidents and allegations that began in the previous review period are eligible for review if significant activity continued into the current review period.
2. This procedure specifically excludes incident response and allegations activities with non-Atomic Energy Act material. Incident response or allegation follow-up actions conducted by or referred to NRC Headquarters personnel for decisions are also excluded from IMPEP reviews.

B. Preparation

1. When reviewing an Agreement State program, the reviewer should request relevant documentation prior to the on-site review by performing the following:
 - a. Contact the Regional State Agreements Officer (RSAO) to obtain a list of incidents and allegations identified for follow-up from any periodic meetings held during the review period, as well as, any other incidents or allegations since the last IMPEP;
 - b. Contact the Idaho National Laboratory NMED program manager to verify the status of incidents since the last IMPEP for the particular Region or Agreement State. Perform three NMED searches: (1) for all events since the last IMPEP, (2) for “pending” meaning information still needed, and (3) for “not completed” incidents. Guidance for performing NMED searches for IMPEP reviews is available in the Help Section of the NMED website;
 - c. Contact the NMSS’s Medical Safety and Events Assessment Branch for lists of incidents to be included in the review. NRC’s Headquarters Operations Center can be used as another point of contact for this information. [NOTE: NMED maintains the complete list of events];
 - d. Contact the NMSS’s Agreement State Performance Concerns Coordinator to obtain a list of performance concerns that have been reported since the last IMPEP; and
 - e. Contact the NRC Headquarters Allegations Team in the Office of Enforcement, to obtain a list of allegations that had been referred to the Agreement State since the last IMPEP.
2. When reviewing an NRC Regional program, the reviewer should request relevant documentation prior to the on-site review by performing the following:
 - a. Contact the Idaho National Laboratory NMED program manager to verify the status of incidents since the last IMPEP for the particular Region or Agreement State. Perform three NMED searches: (1) for all events since the last IMPEP, (2) for “pending” meaning information still needed, and (3) for “not completed” incidents. Guidance for performing NMED searches for IMPEP reviews is available in the Help Section of the NMED website;
 - b. Contact the NMSS’s Medical Safety and Events Assessment Branch for lists of incidents to be included in the review. NRC’s Headquarters Operations Center can be used as another point of contact for this information. [NOTE: NMED maintains the complete list of events]; and

- c. Contact the NRC's Agency Allegation Advisor (AAA) to obtain their last audit of the Region's allegation program.
3. The reviewer should be prepared to conduct staff discussions; review internal written procedures; review incident and allegation files; accompany a staff member into the field, if appropriate; and maintain a reference summary of all casework reviewed and any personnel interviewed during the on-site review.

C. Evaluation Procedures

1. The principal reviewer should refer to Part III, Evaluation Criteria of MD 5.6 for specific evaluation criteria. The definitions of the terms "Incident" and "Allegation" can be found in the Directive's Glossary.
2. The reviewer should select a sample of incident responses to radioactive materials events conducted by the NRC Region or Agreement State that were reported to the NRC Headquarters Operations Center. The sample should represent a cross-section of the type of events reported during the review period (i.e., medical, lost/stolen material, transportation, etc.). Typically at least 10 cases should be reviewed. Additional cases should be reviewed as necessary to evaluate a performance issue.
3. The reviewer should pay particular attention to thefts, diversions, or sabotages of risk-significant quantities of radioactive materials (Category 1 or 2 quantities) reported under 10 CFR Part 37 or compatible Agreement State requirements. Reviewers should also consider reports of suspicious activities made under 10 CFR 37.57(b) or 10 CFR 37.81(c).
4. If possible, the reviewer should also select a smaller sample of radioactive materials events that were not reported to the NRC Headquarters Operations Center to determine if the events should have been reported. This smaller sample of events should primarily be evaluated with respect to the reporting criteria in NMSS Procedure SA-300. The reviewer should only evaluate the appropriateness of the response to the event if the event should have been reported under the criteria in NMSS Procedure SA-300.
5. For Agreement States, the reviewer should select all allegations referred to an Agreement State by NRC for evaluation and a sample of allegations activities that the Agreement State conducted during the review period. Typically at least 10 cases should be reviewed, if available. Additional cases should be reviewed as necessary to evaluate a performance issue.
6. For Agreement States, the reviewer will need to consult with the State on the existence of confidentiality agreements (or other similar mechanisms) in place that may limit the review of specific files. The State may have to remove certain information from documents to protect the identity of concerned individuals.

7. For Regions, the reviewer should review the latest audit conducted by the NRC's AAA to supplement his/her preparation for the review. In appropriate cases, the principal reviewer may adopt a portion of the AAA audit to augment the IMPEP report; however, the principal reviewer must perform his/her own independent review of the NRC Region's response to allegations. The reviewer should select all allegations sent to an Agreement State by NRC that required a response to be submitted back to the NRC and the NRC was responsible for communication to the concerned individual. The reviewer should select approximately 10 allegation files to review.

D. Review Guidelines

1. The response generated by the NRC Region or Agreement State radioactive materials program to relevant questions in the IMPEP questionnaire should be used to focus the review. The reviewer is also encouraged to request a list of incidents and allegations from the NRC Region and Agreement State, Section V.B.1 above.
2. A detailed printout of all NRC Region and Agreement State NMED data for the review period should be obtained. See Section V.B.1 above for additional information to be obtained prior to the on-site review. The reviewer may compare the lists provided by the Region and Agreement State program with the list obtained from sources identified in Section V.B.1 above.
3. Be familiar with this procedure and the list of references listed in Section VII of this procedure.
4. The reviewer should request the NRC Region or Agreement State notify the IMPEP team if an incident or allegation is received during the on-site review. This may be an opportunity to conduct a performance based review (e.g., observe intake, disposition, inspection, etc.)
5. The reviewer should request the IMPEP Team Members who are reviewing license and inspection files be alert to any documentation of any incidents or allegations in the files and share these findings with this principal reviewer.

E. Review Details

1. For incident response, the principal reviewer should evaluate the following:
 - a. Timeliness of notifications to the NRC Headquarters Operations Center for reportable events (Appendix C contains information related to events reporting for Agreement States);
 - b. Promptness of inquiries made to evaluate the need for on-site investigations;

- c. Performance, including timeliness of on-site investigations, and justification if on-site investigation is delayed, when appropriate;
- d. Appropriate follow-up of incidents during the next scheduled inspection, including ensuring the adequacy, accuracy, and completeness of licensee-provided information;
- e. Inclusion of in-depth reviews of incidents during inspections on a high-priority basis, as warranted. When appropriate, follow-up activities should include re-enactments and time-study measurements. Inspection results should be documented;
- f. Pertinent information about incidents that could be relevant to other licensed operations (e.g., equipment failure, improper operating procedures) is provided to licensees, NRC, and/or Agreement States;
- g. Information on incidents involving equipment failure (including make, model, and serial number) is provided to the regulatory agency responsible for evaluation of the device for an assessment of possible generic design deficiency;
- h. Determination that the number, type of event reports, and technical quality of information recorded in NMED and the number, type of event reports, and technical quality of information on record at an NRC Region or Agreement State are consistent and complete;
- i. Information obtained during the NRC Region's or Agreement State's investigation is compared with information obtained from the licensee to identify and resolve any differences;
- j. Whether or not the public is provided access to NRC/Agreement State and licensee records on the incident, as permitted within the constraints of laws for protection of personal, private, and proprietary information;
- k. Verification that the written procedure for handling incidents is available to staff, implemented appropriately with any deviations from the written procedure justified and is effective in addressing the above review detail criteria;
- l. Be available if a new incident occurs during the on-site review to observe receipt, disposition, and/or inspection;
- m. Appropriate regulatory action was taken for items of noncompliance;

- n. Letters to licensees are written in appropriate regulatory language and that they specify the time period for licensee response indicating corrective actions and actions taken to prevent recurrence; and
 - o. The licensee's written response, if required, was reviewed for adequacy, completeness, and verification that the corrective actions correspond to the root cause or mitigating factors to prevent recurrence.
2. For allegations, the reviewer should evaluate the following:
- a. Priority given to allegations with potential safety or security significance;
 - b. Receipt of an allegation is acknowledged to the concerned individual;
 - c. Discussions with the concerned individual, if any, conducted to obtain additional information;
 - d. Notification to the State is timely and complete, if the NRC receives an allegation within the State's purview;
 - e. Protection of concerned individual's identity in accordance with the State rules and policy relating to concerned individual identity protection;
 - f. Adequacy of evaluation/inspection of the allegation to assess its validity and if health, safety and security issues are present;
 - g. Notification to the concerned individuals provides closure documentation for each allegation concern, describing the scope and depth of the review performed and indicating the staff's conclusion as to the validity of the concern, and that concerned individuals are informed of the progress of unresolved allegations consistent with the State's or Region's policy;
 - h. Timeliness of closure of allegations;
 - i. When concerns are raised regarding Agreement State performance with respect to allegations, that the State's procedures for handling allegations compare to guidance in MD 8.8, documenting any significant differences and determining if the State's procedures are as effective as NRC's;
 - j. Verification whether the program for processing allegations encourages those with safety concerns to express those concerns;

- k. Verification that the written procedure for handling allegations (e.g., Management Directive 8.8, "Management of Allegations") is available to staff, implemented appropriately with any deviations from the written procedure justified and is effective in addressing the above review detail criteria;
- l. Be available if a new allegation is received during the on-site review to observe receipt, disposition, and/or inspection;
- m. Appropriate regulatory action was taken for items of noncompliance;
- n. Letters referring allegations to licensees are written in appropriate regulatory language and that they specify the time period for licensee response indicating corrective actions and actions taken to prevent recurrence; and
- o. The licensee's response to an allegation referral or to a violation was reviewed for adequacy and completeness.

F. Review Information Summary

1. At a minimum, the principal reviewer should retain the following information of all casework evaluated during the on-site review:
 - a. Licensee's name,
 - b. A numerical file reference (such as license number, inspection report number, or NMED number),
 - c. The lead inspector's initials (if on-site investigation was conducted),
 - d. Date of incident,
 - e. Type of incident (such as medical event, transportation, loss of control, etc.),
 - f. Date of investigation, and
 - g. Type of investigation (such as inspection, telephone, licensee report, etc.).
2. Appendix A, Incident Casework Review Summary Sheet, provides a template for recording the necessary information that should be maintained by the principal reviewer. The principal reviewer should not feel obligated to use Appendix A, but may find it as a useful means of recording the necessary information. The principal reviewer should retain the records through the Management Review Board (MRB) meeting, as case-specific questions may be asked by MRB members.

3. Appendix B, Allegation Casework Review Summary Sheet, provides a template for recording information specific to allegation casework reviews. Information on allegation casework reviews is not published in IMPEP reports. The principal reviewer should retain the records through the MRB meeting, as case-specific questions may be asked by MRB members.

G. Discussion of Findings with NRC Regions or Agreement States

The reviewer should follow the guidance given in NMSS Procedure SA-100, *Implementation of the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP)*, for discussing technical findings with staff, supervisors, and managers.

VI. APPENDICES

- Appendix A – Incident Casework Review Summary Sheet
- Appendix B – Allegation Casework Review Summary Sheet
- Appendix C – Event Reporting Schedule for Agreement States
- Appendix D – Frequently Asked Questions

VII. REFERENCES

1. NMSS Procedure [SA-100](#), *Implementation of the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP)*.
2. NMSS Procedure SA-111, *Implementation of Management Directive 5.10, Formal Qualifications for IMPEP Team Members*.
3. NMSS Procedure SA-300, *Reporting Material Events*.
4. NMSS Procedure SA-400, *Management of Allegations*.
5. NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2800, *Materials Inspection Program*.
6. NRC Management Directive 5.6, *Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program*.
7. NRC Management Directive 5.10, *Formal Qualifications for Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program (IMPEP) Team Members*.
8. NRC Management Directive 8.8, *Management of Allegations*.
9. NUREG-0090 *Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences*
10. NRC Allegation Manual (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML15147A700)

VIII. ADAMS REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

For knowledge management purposes, all previous revisions of this procedure, as well as associated correspondence with stakeholders, that have been entered into ADAMS are listed below.

No.	Date	Document Title/Description	Accession Number
1	12/15/06	FSME-06-112, Opportunity to Comment on Draft Revisions to FSME Procedure SA-105	ML063480642
2	12/15/06	FSME Procedure SA-105, Draft Revision	ML063480651
3	6/13/07	FSME-07-057, Final FSME Procedure SA-105	ML071880003
4	6/13/07	FSME Procedure SA-105	ML071880005
5	6/13/07	Redline/Strikeout Copy	ML071880006
6	6/13/07	Resolution of Comments	ML071880007
7	10/8/09	FSME-09-092, Opportunity to Comment on Draft Revisions to FSME Procedure SA-105	ML092750465
8	Insert date	NMSS Procedure SA-105, Draft Revision	Add ML#

Appendix A

INCIDENT CASEWORK REVIEW SUMMARY SHEET

NRC REVIEW BY: _____ DATE: _____ A/S OR REGION: _____

STATE INCIDENT NUMBER OR OTHER FILE IDENTIFICATION: _____	
LICENSEE: _____	LICENSE # _____
DATE OF INCIDENT: _____	DATE OF 1ST CONTACT: _____
DATE OF INVESTIGATION: _____ INVESTIGATION TYPE: SITE [] PHONE [] NEXT INSP [] NONE []	
<input type="checkbox"/> OVEREXPOSURE	<input type="checkbox"/> DAMAGE TO EQUIPMENT OR FACILITY
<input type="checkbox"/> RELEASE OF RAM	<input type="checkbox"/> EQUIPMENT OR PROCEDURE FAILURE
<input type="checkbox"/> LOST/STOLEN/ABANDONED RAM	<input type="checkbox"/> LEAKING SOURCE
<input type="checkbox"/> CONTAMINATION EVENT	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> LOSS OF CONTROL	<input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL EVENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	

BRIEF SUMMARY OF INCIDENT _____

EVENT PROPERLY REPORTED TO NRC HEADQUARTERS OPERATIONS OFFICE? Y N EVENT ADDED TO NMED Y N

EVENT MET AO REPORTING REQUIREMENTS? Y N POSSIBLE GENERIC PROBLEM? Y N

REGION/STATE'S ACTION: _____

FINAL DISPOSITION: _____

NO.	COMMENTS FOR REPORT APPENDIX

INVESTIGATOR _____

SUPERVISORY REVIEW BY: _____ DATE: _____

FINDINGS DISCUSSED WITH: _____ ON: _____

Appendix B

ALLEGATION CASEWORK REVIEW SUMMARY SHEET

REVIEW BY: _____ DATE: _____ A/S OR REGION: _____

ALLEGATION NUMBER OR OTHER FILE IDENTIFICATION: _____	
LICENSEE: _____	LICENSE # _____
DATE OF ALLEGED EVENT: _____	DATE OF 1ST CONTACT: _____
DATE OF INVESTIGATION: _____	INVESTIGATION TYPE: SITE <input type="checkbox"/> PHONE <input type="checkbox"/> NEXT INSP <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/>
ALLEGATION PERTAINING TO POSSIBLE:	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNREPORTED OVEREXPOSURE	<input type="checkbox"/> FAULTY EQUIPMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> UNREPORTED RELEASE OF RAM	<input type="checkbox"/> FALSE STATEMENTS OR RECORDS
<input type="checkbox"/> UNQUALIFIED USERS OR INADEQUATE TRAINING	<input type="checkbox"/> DELIBERATE VIOLATION
<input type="checkbox"/> INADEQUATE PROCEDURES OR POSTINGS	<input type="checkbox"/> DISCRIMINATION
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: _____	

BRIEF SUMMARY OF ALLEGATION _____

RULE OR LICENSE CONDITION ALLEGEDLY VIOLATED: _____

REGION/STATE'S ACTION(S) AND RESPECTIVE DATE(S): _____

FINAL DISPOSITION AND DATE OF COMPLETION: _____

NO.	COMMENTS FOR REPORT

INVESTIGATOR _____

SUPERVISORY REVIEW BY: _____ DATE: _____

FINDINGS DISCUSSED WITH: _____ ON: _____

Appendix C

Event Reporting Schedule for Agreement States			
	REPORTABLE EVENT NOTIFICATION¹	AGREEMENT STATE REPORTING SCHEDULE TO NRC	REPORTING METHODS TO NRC⁴
IMMEDIATE	Significant reportable events requiring immediate notification (i.e., within 4 hours or less²) by Agreement State licensees.	Agreement State should report to NRC immediately of notification by an Agreement State licensee.	<p>Report initial information to the NRC Operations Center⁵ (301) 816-5100 Fax #: (301) 816-5151 Email: HOO.HOC@nrc.gov</p>
24 HOURS	Significant reportable events requiring notification within 24 hours or less, or next calendar day , by Agreement State licensees.	Agreement States should report to NRC within 24 hours of notification by an Agreement State licensee.	
	Events involving theft or terrorist activities should be reported to the FBI³ .	Agreement States should consider reporting to the FBI within 24 hours of notification.	
5 - 60 DAYS	5 - 60 day reportable events requiring greater than 24 hour notification by Agreement State licensee and event follow-up reports.	Agreement States should provide 5 - 60 day notification within the same timeframe licensees must report the event to the Agreement State, and any follow-up reports should be provided in a timely manner ⁶ .	<p>NMED Local Agreement State Software or NMED website at http://nmed.inl.gov or Mail: U.S. NRC, Branch Chief of NMSS/MSTR/MSEB, Mail Stop T-8E18 Washington, DC 20555</p>
VOLUNTARY	Lost, stolen, or abandoned sources reported to the Agreement and non-Agreement States that are non-AEA or unlicensed material and not covered by the above two categories.	Voluntary reporting by the Agreement States and non-Agreement States ⁷ .	

1. Privacy Act Information – Personal or sensitive information should not be included in event descriptions (e.g., names, personal addresses, or social security numbers).
2. For example, events involving lost, actual or attempted theft, sabotage, or diversion of radioactive materials or devices containing “high-risk” sources in quantities greater than or equal to the quantities of concern (i.e., quantities greater than or equal to Category 2 sources listed in the International Atomic Energy Agency’s Code of Conduct) and as outlined in reporting requirements in 10 CFR Part 20.2201.

3. A revision to the U.S. Code assigns lead responsibility for material events involving possible theft or terrorist activities to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).
4. A sample fax to the NRC Headquarters Operations Center is available in Appendix D of NMSS procedure SA-300.
5. The NRC Headquarters Operations Center staff will promptly notify the appropriate Region Duty Officer (RDO) and Headquarters staff of Agreement State events. Therefore, no separate notification to other NRC staff by an Agreement State is necessary.
6. An example of the minimum basic event information required for a complete record is provided in Appendix E of SA-300.
7. Voluntary reporting is a joint national effort of the NRC and the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors (CRCPD) to track certain non-AEA, unlicensed, or non-reportable AEA lost and found radioactive material

Appendix D

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q. What is the Nuclear Material Events Database (NMED)?
- A. NMED is a historical collection of information on the occurrence, description, and resolution of events involving radioactive material in the United States. NMED accommodates the sharing of material event data submitted by Agreement and non-Agreement States and NRC. The data includes information on material events from January 1990 through the present. The database is maintained by the NRC's Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards through a contractor, Idaho National Laboratory (INL).
- Q. Where is the NMED data located and how is it accessed?
- A. The data is located at the NMED homepage (<https://nmed.inl.gov>). A password is required for access and can be obtained by an e-mail request to NMED@inl.gov or to the NRC's NMED Project Manager (NMEDNRC@nrc.gov).
- Q. Should the principal reviewer assigned this indicator obtain the NMED printout for the NRC Region or Agreement State prior to the IMPEP review?
- A. Yes, a printout of NMED data for the review period for the respective program should be obtained prior to the on-site portion of the IMPEP.
- Q. Does a Potential "P" classification shown for a specific event on the NMED report mean that an Abnormal Occurrence (AO) event has occurred in the State?
- A. The Agreement States support the NRC in their effort to keep Congress apprised of any significant events that may directly affect public health or safety by providing information to NRC on potential AOs that have occurred in their State. Any events identified as potential AOs should be reported to NRC and will show up on the NMED report once they have been reported. The Commission makes the final determination of whether or not an AO occurred and all potential AOs are in fact potential until such a determination is made by the Commission. As such, a *potential* classification does not necessarily mean an AO actually occurred.
- Q. Is the Agency's event notifications (ENs) system received and maintained by the Headquarters Operations Center a potential source of information specific to events?
- A. Yes, the Agency's EN system is accessible through the NRC's public website and could be used as a source of information for events for a particular program. The EN system contains reports of significant events received from Agreement States reported by phone to a Headquarters Operations Officer. NMED should be used as the primary means for obtaining incident data for a particular program. The NMED report, used in conjunction with the EN system, will provide the greatest amount of event information in preparation for an IMPEP review.

- Q. What processes does the Agency use to evaluate Agreement State performance relative to allegations?
- A. The Agency has established several tools relative to the handling of Agreement State allegations: IMPEP, which is dictated by Management Directive 5.6 and other associated implementing procedures; Management Directive 8.8; the NRC Allegation Manual (ADAMS Accession No. ML15147A700), and NMSS Procedure SA-400, *Management of Allegations*.
- Q. Is it appropriate to discuss the merits of an allegation during a Management Review Board (MRB) meeting for an IMPEP review?
- A. Although the MRB meeting provides a senior-level review of the IMPEP team's findings and recommendations, it is not appropriate to discuss the merits of an allegation during the MRB. The Allegation Review Board (ARB) is a more appropriate forum for discussing allegations. One reason is that the MRB is a public meeting. The ARB is not a public meeting and includes discussions regarding allegations that may or may not be proven to be true.