



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

June 2, 2016

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, VERMONT, WYOMING

FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE – REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT REVISIONS TO THE “POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE AGREEMENT STATE PROGRAM” – (NRC-2016-0094) (STC-16-044)

Purpose: To provide notification that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has published a *Federal Register* notice (FRN) that is soliciting comments on the proposed Policy Statement for the Agreement State Program.

The NRC plans to hold two public meetings to discuss the topics identified in the FRN and facilitate public participation. The NRC staff will publicly notice the official dates and times of these meetings, but they are scheduled as webinars on:

June 28th from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM EST

To register for Tuesday, June 28th, please select the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2853827884701035012>

July 27th from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM EST

To register for Wednesday, July 27th, please select the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7899784712216438276>

Consult the NRC public meeting schedule, which can be accessed at:

<http://meetings.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg> for additional information.

Background: The NRC has revised and consolidated two policy statements on NRC’s Agreement State Programs: the “Policy Statement on Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs” and the “Statement of Principles and Policy for the Agreement State Program.” The Commission approved NRC staff’s proposed plan to provide the consolidated policy statement in the Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) to COMSECY-14-0028, dated August 12, 2014 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No: ML14224A618). The proposed consolidated policy statement also addresses the Commission direction in the SRMs to SECY-10-0105 (ADAMS Accession No: ML103360262) and SECY-12-0112 (ADAMS Accession No: ML13148A352) to update the Policy Statement on Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs to include both safety and source security considerations in the determination process, and publish the draft revisions of the policy statements for public comment. The proposed policy statement also reflects written public comments and input received from public meetings and the Organization of Agreement States topical session.

Discussion: The NRC issued a FRN on June 2, 2016 (81 FR 35388), to request comments on the draft revision to the proposed policy statement. The NRC staff identified and eliminated redundant language, and removed detailed information on the Integrated Materials Performance Evaluation Program and the “Principles of Good Regulation” (ADAMS Accession No. ML15083A026), as this material is not typically included in a high-level policy statement. Additional changes made to the policy statement are addressed in the FRN, but generally the NRC would like to solicit comments on the revision in order to maximize effectiveness and provide greater clarification.

A copy of the FRN, which includes the language of the proposed policy statement, is accessible from the following link: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-06-02/pdf/2016-13006.pdf>. The draft revision to the proposed policy statement can also be found in the NRC’s ADAMS using the Accession Number ML16120A190.

The **comment period ends on August 16, 2016**. Please follow the directions in the *Federal Register* for submitting comments. We look forward to receiving your input.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me at (301) 415-3340, or the individual named below:

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/RA/

Daniel S. Collins, Director
Division of Material Safety, State, Tribal
and Rulemaking Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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