



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

January 19, 2017

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES
STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE – REQUEST FOR INPUT AND INFORMATION TO INFORM THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION EVALUATION OF CATEGORY 3 SOURCE SECURITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY (STC-17-007)

Purpose: To provide notification that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has published a *Federal Register* notice (FRN) that is soliciting input and information on the evaluation of Category 3 source security and accountability and to encourage feedback in response to the FRN and related outreach activities.

Background: On October 18, 2016, the Commission issued a Staff Requirements Memorandum for COMJMB-16-0001 - *Proposed Staff Re-Evaluation of Category 3 Source Accountability* which directed NRC staff to take specific actions to evaluate whether it is necessary to revise NRC regulations or processes governing source protection and accountability. Specifically, the Commission asked the staff to conduct an evaluation of, among other things, the pros and cons of different methods of requiring transferors of Category 3 sources to verify the validity of a transferee's license prior to transfer, the pros and cons of including Category 3 sources in the National Source Tracking System (NSTS), and the risks posed by aggregation of Category 3 sources into Category 2 quantities. As part of this evaluation, the NRC is seeking information to fully assess the regulatory impact of potential revisions to our regulations or processes for Category 3 source protection and accountability.

Discussion: The NRC issued an FRN on January 9, 2017 (82 FR 2399) with subsequent correction on January 17, 2017 (82 FR 4938), to request comments based on a series of questions regarding Category 3 source security and accountability. The questions are separated into sections based on the topics and applicability to relevant stakeholders. These include: General Questions Related to License Verification Involving Transfers of Category 3 Sources; General Questions Related to the Inclusion of Category 3 Sources in NSTS; Specific Questions for Licensees Related to License Verification Involving Transfers of Category 3 Sources; Specific Questions for Licensees Related to the Inclusion of Category 3 Sources in NSTS; Specific Questions for Agreement States Related to License Verification Involving Transfers of Category 3 Sources; Specific Questions for Agreement States Related to the Inclusion of Category 3 Sources in NSTS; and Other Questions. Please be cautious in providing comments that contain specific examples, and do not provide any specific official-use-only, safeguards, and/or classified information related to a specific facility.

The NRC plans to hold a series of public meetings and webinars to facilitate public participation. The first public meeting and webinar is scheduled for January 31, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. at NRC Headquarters in Rockville, Maryland. The staff is planning to conduct additional public meetings and webinars in February and March 2017. Staff will publicly notice the date and times of these meetings when they are scheduled. The notices will be posted at:

<https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg>. Further information on this effort, updates, and public meeting details can be found at the following Web site:
<https://www.nrc.gov/security/byproduct/category-3-source-security-accountability-reevaluation.html>.

A copy of the FRN is accessible at the following link:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-09/pdf/2017-00169.pdf>. The comment period ends on March 10, 2017. Please follow the directions in the *Federal Register* notice 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:

POINT OF CONTACT: Duncan White
TELEPHONE: 301-415-2598

E-MAIL: Duncan.White@nrc.gov

/RA/

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

DISTRIBUTION:

Irene Wu
 Gina Davis

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OFC	NMSS/MSTR	NMSS/MSTR	NMSS/MSTR
NAME	JO'Hara for DWhite	SAtack	DCollins
DATE	1/10/17	1/13/17	1/19/17

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