



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS
WASHINGTON, DC 20555 - 0001**

March 19, 2018

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor M. McCree
Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Andrea D. Veil, Executive Director */RA/*
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

SUBJECT: DOCUMENTATION OF RECEIPT OF APPLICABLE OFFICIAL NRC
NOTICES TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR
SAFEGUARDS FOR MARCH 2018

During the 651st meeting of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, March 8-9, 2018, the Committee considered significant NRC communications (enclosed) as items for their awareness and any actions as appropriate. This memorandum documents the receipt of the attached communications by the ACRS members. No response to this memorandum is required.

Enclosure: As Stated

cc: A. Vietti-Cook, SECY
L. Burkhart, OEDO
R. Lewis, OEDO



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OFFICE	ACRS/TSB	SUNSI Review	ACRS/TSB	ACRS
NAME	QNguyen	QNguyen	MBanks	AVeil
DATE	3/15/2018	3/15/2018	3/16/2018	3/19/2018

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Attachment 1

Monthly Communication of Official NRC Notices to the ACRS

Date	Subject
2/15/18	<p data-bbox="321 401 959 453">Ethics Training Requirements</p> <p data-bbox="889 495 1430 531">Yellow Announcement: YA-18-0017</p> <p data-bbox="1073 533 1430 569">Date: February 14, 2018</p> <p data-bbox="967 571 1430 606">Expiration Date: June 27, 2021</p> <p data-bbox="321 653 829 688">TO: All NRC Employees</p> <p data-bbox="321 737 1076 772">SUBJECT: ETHICS TRAINING REQUIREMENTS</p> <p data-bbox="321 825 1430 1367">This Yellow Announcement serves to inform you that the Office of Government Ethics (OGE) has issued new regulations that modify the training requirements outlined in certain sections of NRC Management Directive (MD) 7.5, "Ethics Counseling and Training," with respect to initial and annual ethics training requirements for certain NRC employees. Shortly after the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) updated MD 7.5 in June 2016, OGE published an update to its regulations in 5 C.F.R. Part 2638, "Executive Branch Ethics Program," which governs training requirements for all executive branch employees. Although the NRC has continued to provide employees with proper ethics training since this update occurred, MD 7.5 now contains outdated or inaccurate information regarding ethics training requirements. This Yellow Announcement serves to provide NRC employees with updated, accurate information regarding training requirements, and will be formally added to Management Directive 7.5 when that directive is next revised in full.</p> <p data-bbox="329 1419 935 1455">Handbook Section I.C, "Ethics Training"</p> <p data-bbox="321 1507 553 1543">Training Contents</p> <p data-bbox="321 1577 1409 1843">Unless otherwise specified, all training under this section, whether live or computer-based interactive, will address, at minimum, financial conflicts of interest, impartiality in decisionmaking, misuse of position, and the acceptance of gifts. All training will also include written instructions on how to access materials prepared by OGC ethics counselors to include written summaries of the Standards of Conduct (5 C.F.R. Part 2635), the General Principles of Ethical Conduct (5 C.F.R. 2635.101(b)), NRC supplemental ethics regulations (5 C.F.R. Part 5801), and instructions on how to contact NRC ethics counselors.</p>

Attachment 1

“Interactive” training as used in this section refers to training in which the employee being trained is required to take an action with regard to the subject of the training involving the employee’s use of knowledge acquired through the training. A live training in which the presenter is able to respond to questions during the course of the presentation is also considered “interactive.”

Initial Ethics Training

All new NRC employees, including Special Government Employees, will be assigned interactive, computer-based initial ethics training through iLearn. Employees will be required to complete this training no later than three months from the date of their appointment. Compliance with this requirement will be tracked through iLearn.

In the case of a newly hired Special Government Employee who is not provided with access to the NRC network and cannot receive interactive training through iLearn, OGC ethics counselors will provide such employees with alternative interactive ethics training, such as a personal ethics briefing with the opportunity to ask questions.

Presidential nominees for Senate-confirmed positions may complete initial ethics training after confirmation but prior to their appointment. Initial ethics training for Senate-confirmed Presidential nominees and appointees is in addition to the ethics briefing such employees are required to receive within 15 days after appointment per 5 C.F.R. § 2638.305, though the NRC may elect to combine initial ethics training with the initial ethics briefing.

Annual Ethics Training

Public Financial Disclosure Filers

As required by OGE regulations, the NRC Chairman will annually receive at least one hour of live ethics training each year. Other Commissioners, the Inspector General, and the NRC Designated Agency Ethics Official are required to receive at least one hour of live ethics training at least once every two years, and may be permitted to receive interactive ethics training (such as computer-based iLearn training) in alternate years.

Other NRC employees, including Special Government Employees, who are required to file public financial disclosure reports (OGE Form 278e) must receive one hour of interactive training each year, which may include live training. Members of the ACRS will receive a live ethics training at one of their committee meetings each year.

Each year the OGC ethics team will offer a one-hour live training session for public financial disclosure filers. Employees who are required to receive either live training or interactive training in that calendar year may attend this live training and receive credit. Employees who do not attend this live training but are only required to receive to interactive training will be assigned training in iLearn for that calendar year. Employees who do not attend this training but are required to receive live ethics training in that calendar year (e.g., Commissioners, the Inspector General, the Designated Agency Ethics Official) will receive personal ethics briefings.

Attachment 1

	<p>Confidential Financial Disclosure Filers</p> <p>NRC employees, including Special Government Employees, who file confidential financial disclosure reports (OGE Form 450) must receive at least one hour of interactive training each year. Employees will be assigned this training through iLearn.</p> <p>Members of the ACMUI will receive a live ethics training at one of their committee meetings each year.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>/RA/</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Margaret M. Doane General Counsel</p>