



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

June 13, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: Alison Rivera, Chief  
Fuel Cycle and Transportation Security Branch  
Division of Physical and Cyber Security Policy  
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

FROM: Paul Harris, Senior Program Manager */RA/*  
Fuel Cycle and Transportation Security Branch  
Division of Physical and Cyber Security Policy  
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

SUBJECT: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION  
(SFAQ-18-01) – REPORTABILITY OF ALCOHOL-RELATED  
EVENTS INVOLVING DEMINIMUS VALUES OF ALCOHOL  
CONCENTRATION

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) received a question from the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) asking whether commercial power reactor licensees should report alcohol-related events involving consumable products containing de minimis values of alcohol to the NRC's Headquarters Operations Center (HOC). As detailed in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 26, "Fitness for Duty Programs," Section 26.719(b), licensees and other entities are required to report to the NRC HOC within 24 hours of the identification of alcohol in the protected area (PA) or the consumption of alcohol in the PA. Part 26 does not provide a definition of alcohol within its regulatory framework; therefore, it has been standard practice to infer that alcohol (as referenced in Part 26) means any and all alcohol, no matter its form or alcohol-by-volume (ABV) concentration.

Enclosure 1 quotes NEI's "Description of Question," "Background," and "Proposed Solution," that was provided to the NRC staff on NEI form titled: "SFAQ 18-01; Kombucha tea and other products that have < 0.5 % alcohol." This form was received on December 14, 2018, and as it contained draft preliminary information, it was not made public, consistent with the NRC's Frequently Asked Questions internal procedure. Enclosure 2 is the NRC staff's technical discussion supporting the issuance of guidance that licensees and other entities should report to the NRC HOC alcohol-related events when they involve a liquid having an alcohol concentration of greater than or equal to 0.5 percent ABV or more, as measured by the licensee or other entity or as labeled by a Federal agency.

Enclosures:  
As stated

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION (SFAQ-18-01) – REPORTABILITY OF ALCOHOL-RELATED EVENTS INVOLVING DEMINIMUS VALUES OF ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION  
 DATED: June 13, 2019

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