

UNITED STATES

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

April 19, 1983

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chorable Nunzio J. Palladino

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (48 FR 12619)

Washington, DC 20555

Dear Dr. Palladino

Subject: ACRS COMMENTS ON REGIONALIZATION OF NRC STAFF ACTIVITIES

During its 274th, 275th, and 276th meetings, February 10-12, March 10-12, and April 14-16, 1983, respectively, the ACRS reviewed the proposed plan for regionalization of certain NRC operations. In this review, we had the henefit of a Subcommittee meeting on February 8, 1983 with members of the NRC Staff and the information contained in the Draft Policy Statement on Regionalization, SECY-83-14, dated January 12, 1983, and the subsequent memorandum from the Secretary of the Commission to the Executive Director for Operations on the same subject, dated March 7, 1983.

During this long period of interaction and introspection, we have been able to reach a conclusion, but have been unable to agree on a recommendation:

Conclusion: If there is one among us who fully supports the present program and pace for regionalization, he has not made himself known. Our concerns are several, but all have to do with the potential negative impact on reactor safety.

Recommendation: We have been (so far) unable to arrive at a collegial recommendation between two alternatives, to which individual members of the Committee are attached:

- Stop or defer regionalization until its impact on safety has been more thoroughly understood.
- Proceed with extreme caution and attention to specific safety-related concerns.

We hope to discuss this question at greater length, both with you and with each other and hope that, at a minimum, nothing irrevocable is done in the interim, to leave us with a fait accompli.

Edward black word, 61131111166 Sincerely,

You Wamback, 314 PhiL

Jesse C. Ebersole Acting Chairman

Jens C. Etersole

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Chalicy Statement on Regionalization)
(48 FR 12619)

Nuclear Information and Resource Service

1346 Connecticut Avenue NW, 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 296-7552

Mr. James Asselstine

Commissioner

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

1717 H Street, NW Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Asselstine:

We are writing to share with you some concerns stemming from recent information we have received about the NRC's Regionalization program. As you know, the Nuclear Information and Resource Service is a national organization serving citizens concerned about nuclear energy. The particular matter which has come to our attention reflects a disturbing inattention on the part of some NRC staff to attention reflects a disturbing inattention on the part of some NRC staff to roper process and procedure. We direct this information to your attention both cause you are directly affected and because of your customary concern for maintaining proper process and procedure at the agency.

A portion of an NRC document has come into our possession which identifies a number of programs within the Division of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety, NMSS of the NRC which have been decentralized to the regions as of April 1, 1983. Specifically, these include: 16 types of materials licenses and three types of amendments to existing fuel cycle licenses (see attached document). To the knowledge of the public (and the Commission), a number of these types of licensing responsibilities were not scheduled to be regionalized until FY 84. This discrepancy, while relatively minor in itself, is important in that it indicates that the Commission and public are not being accurately informed of NRC staff activities, and that part of the proposed regionalization plan has already been implemented prior to written public comment and Commission and Advisory Committee on Reactor Safegyards approval. As this division of licensing covers the preponderence of total NRC licensing, the scope of the problem takes on added significance.

In light of the extreme controversy of the regionalization program (see ACRS letter, enclosed), this hasty implementation seems especially inappropriate. Further, we have reason to believe that the action of this particular division reflects a growing agency-wide tendency to take actions independent of Commission guidance. Your investigation into these matters will be greatly appreciated.

Tomi Wamback, 314 Phil

Sincerely,

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Reactor Safety Project

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ACCELERATED DECENTRALIZATION SCHEDULE DIVISION OF FUEL CYCLE AND MATERIAL SAFETY

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ITEM	PPSAS CODE	PROGRAM CODE
Academic Medical Institutions Medical Private Practice Other Medical Licenses Measuring Systems - Gauges, etc. Services - Leak Test, Installation Broad - No Distribution Other - No Distribution Civil Defense	1311-10, 20, 30 1311-11, 21, 31 1311-12, 22, 32 1311-14, 24, 34 1311-17, 27, 37 1311-16, 26, 36 1311-10, 20, 30 1311-19, 2P, 3P 1311-10, 20, 30	M01100, 200 M02110, 120 M02200 M02400 M03120 M03220 M03610 M03620 M03710
Plutonium Neutron Sources and Unencapsulated Plutonium Power Sources Labor Expended on SNM Depleted Uranium for Shielding Subcritical Assemblies Manufacturing of Products Other Source Material	1311-1W, 2W, 3W 1311-1X, 2X, 3X 1311-1Y, 2Y, 3Y 1311-1R, 2R, 3R 1311-1S, 2S, 3S 1311-1U, 2U, 3U 1311-1V, 2Y, 3Y	M22110-150 M22110-150 M22110-150 M11200, 300 ² M11200, 300 ² M11200, 300 ²
Licenses for More Than Critical Amounts of SNM, but Less Than Critical Amounts To Be Located in Any Room or Area Uranium Fuel Fabrication Licenses for	1111-43	
Decontamination/Termination and Close-Out Surveys Advanced Fuel R&D and Pilot Plant Licenses for Decontamination & Close-Out Surveys	1111-D ⁴ 1111-92 ⁴	M21220, 230

NOTE: The first 12 items were delegated to Regions I and 11I on 5/13/82.

Licenses=for District of Columbia agencies are included in these and subsequent delegations. Until further notice, federal facility licenses will be handled by Headquarters.

Q = Zero; O = Alphabet Letter
 Some of these licenses are being handled presently by Regions I and III, although they have not been specifically delegated. The license actions were forwarded to the two Regions on a case-by-case basis. On 4/01/83, all of these licenses will be delegated officially to all Regions.

^{3.} This is only a portion of the work done under this PPSAS Code (entitled Complete Licensing Cases for Critical Mass Materials Licensees). The remainder will be delegated to the Regions on 4/02/84.

^{4.} Only the above portions of the PPSAS Codes will be delegated to all five Regions in April 1983. The remaining functions will be delegated at a later time.

ACCELERATED DECENTRALIZATION SCHEDULE DIVISION OF FUEL CYCLE AND MATERIAL SAFETY

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ITEM .	PPSAS CODE PROGRAM CODE
Teletherapy	1311-13, 23, 33 M02300
Medical Distribution - Radiopharmaceuticals	1311-15, 25, 35 M02500
Hall Looping	1311-16, 26, 36 MO3110
Well Logging Broad - Authorizes Distribution	1311-18, 28, 38 M03211
Broad - Authorizes Distribution	1311-19, 29, 39 M03212
Other - Authorizes Distribution	
Distribution to General Licensees Other	1311-1A, 2A, 3A M03213
Than In Vitro	1011-1n, En, on
Distribution to General Licensees of	1311-1B, 2B, 3B M03213
In Vitro-Kits	
Nuclear Laundries	1311-1F, 2F, 3F M03218
Commercial Low-Level Waste Receipt and/or	1311-11, 21, 31 M03232
Packacing	
Radiography - Fixed Facility	1311-1J, 2J, 3J M03310
Radiography - Temporary Job Sites	1311-1K, 2K, 3K M03320
Power Source	1311-1L, 2L, 3L M03400
Irradiators - Internal Beam	1311-1M, 2M, 3M M03510
Irradiators - Other	1311-1H, 2N, 3N M03520
- 7: utonium Powered Cardiac Pacemakers	1311-17, 2Z, 3Z, M22160, 161
Complete Licensing Cases for Critical Mass Materials Licensees	1111-41
Complete Licensing Cases for Interim	
Complete Licensing cases for another	1111-52
Spent Fuel Storage Facilities	
Perform Interim Spent Fuel Storage Minor	1111-52
Reviews	,
. Complete Licensing Cases for Storage of	1111-6
Reactor Low-Level Waste	1111-0
Perform Storage of Reactor Low-Level	1111 61
Vacte Major Reviews	1111-61
Perform Storage of Reactor Low-Level	**** 62
Waste Minor Reviews	1111-62

Licenses for more than critical amounts of SNM, but less than critical amounts to be located in any room or area - delegated to Regions on 4/01/83.
 PPSAS Code 1111-51 (Major Reviews) will not be delegated to the Regions.

02/84 (Continued)

1TEM	PPSAS CODE	PROGRAM CODE
Complete Licensing Cases for Uranium Fuel RED and Pilot Plants	1111-8	
Perform Uranium Fuel R&D and Pilot Plants Major Reviews	1111-81	
Perform Uranium Fuel R&D and Pilot	1111-82	
Complete Licensing Cases for Advanced Fuel R&D and Pilot Plants	1111-9	
Perform Advanced Fuel R&D and Pilot Plants Major Reviews	1111-91	
Perform Advanced Fuel R&D and Pilot Plants Minor Reviews Conduct Pre- and Post-Licensing Activities	1111-92 ³ 1111-0 ⁴	
Complete Licensing Cases for Radiological Contingency Planning	1111-E	

3. A portion of this PPSAS Code (licenses for decontamination and close-out

surveys) -was delegated to the Regions on 4/01/83.

4. A portion of this PPSAS Code will be retained at Headquarters to cover licensing activities, including technical assistance to the Regions, not being decentralized as of 4/02/84.

ACCELERATED DECENTRALIZATION SCHEDULE DIVISION OF FUEL CYCLE AND MATERIAL SAFETY

10/01/84

ITEM .	PPSAS CODE	PROGRAM CODE
Complete Licensing Cases for Uranium Fuel Fabrication Facilities	1111-1	
Perform Uranium Fuel Fabrication Facility Major Reviews	1111-11	
Perform Uranium Fuel Fabrication Facility Minor Reviews	1111-12	
Complete Licensing Cases for Fresh Fuel Storage Only at Reactor Sites	1111-3	
Perform Fresh Fuel Storage Only Major	1111-31	
Perform Fresh Fuel Storage Only Minor Reviews	1111-32 1211 17 27 37	
Processing for Extraction of Other Elements (Zirconium, Halfnium or Rare Earths)	1311-1T, 2T, 3T	