

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

March 18, 2021

Mr. Wilfredo Rivera WR Non Destructive P.O. BOX 311 Cataño, PR 00963

# SUBJECT: SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL STATUS REPORTS UNDER THE MODIFIED SMALL QUANTITIES PROTOCOL TO THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT (10 CFR PART 75)

Dear Mr. Rivera:

With this letter the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is providing information on submittal of the "Material Status Report" under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 75, "Safeguards on Nuclear Material-Implementation of Safeguards Agreements Between the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency." The NRC understands that the Covid-19 Public Health Epidemic (PHE) may impact the ability of licensees to access their facilities and records. Restrictions pertaining to the Covid-19 PHE may potentially restrict the ability of licensees to submit the required reports in a timely manner as directed in the regulations. The NRC is providing this information on submittal methods so that licensees have sufficient opportunity to meet their requirements or to request regulatory relief.

In order to meet U.S. international treaty obligations pursuant to the modified Small Quantities Protocol (SQP), the NRC is required to collect information on source and special nuclear material in the U.S. Caribbean Territories. Timely submission of the "Material Status Report" assists the U.S. in meeting treaty obligations with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The NRC would like to underscore the importance of submitting the "Material Status Report" in accordance with 10 CFR 75.35 by the deadline of May 31, 2021. Should a NRC licensee not submit the "Material Status Report" by the deadline of May 31, 2021, the NRC will disposition non-compliance in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession Number ML19352E921), which includes the possibility of a Notice of Violation issued to the licensee.

In accordance with 10 CFR 75.35, each licensee that possesses nuclear material subject to IAEA safeguards shall submit to the NRC a "Material Status Report" for the required annual physical inventory on DOE/NRC Form 742, "Materials Balance Report," and DOE/NRC Form 742C, "Physical Inventory Listing", no later than May 31 of each year. This reporting period commenced on May 1, 2020 and concludes on April 30, 2021. The "Material Status Report," must be prepared in accordance with the instructions in NUREG/BR-0006 and NUREG/BR-0007. The report must be submitted to the NRC no later than May 31, 2021.

Copies of the DOE/NRC Forms are enclosed with this letter and can also be obtained from the following Web sites: <u>https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/forms/#NRC</u> and <u>https://nnsa.energy.gov/aboutus/ourprograms/nuclearsecurity/nmmsshome/nmmssinfo/doenrcforms</u>. If a licensee does not currently have access to its Material Status Report submittal from the previous year, the NRC can provide that information to the licensee upon request to one of the individuals named below.

Copies of the instructions for completing DOE/NRC Forms may be obtained from the following Web sites: <u>https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/brochures</u> and <u>https://nnsa.energy.gov/aboutus/ourprograms/nuclearsecurity/nmmsshome/nmmssinfo/nmmssr</u> eports

As specified in the instructions, electronic submittal of the forms is preferred. If electronic submittal is not feasible, the reports may be filed by submitting hard copies of the forms by mail or other delivery service. Hard copies should be sent to:

Attention to Alexandra Zeigler or Elaine Beacom NMMSS Program, NA-532 Germantown Bldg. U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20585-1290

If a licensee is unable to submit their "Material Status Report" as required by the date given in 10 CFR 75.35, they may request an exemption from the requirement by contacting one of the individuals named below. Requests for exemptions should be sent sufficiently far in advance of the reporting date to allow NRC evaluation and action (typically at least 2 weeks). If an exemption is not granted prior to the reporting date the licensee may be subject to enforcement action. The exemption request should provide the following information:

- 1. a request for exemption from the physical inventory and reporting requirement for the material in its possession;
- 2. a statement of when the last physical inventory of all material was conducted; and
- 3. a commitment that states any discrepancies in the results identified when conducting the physical inventory will be resolved within 30 calendar days of notification to the NRC.

DOC/NRC Forms 742C and 740M are approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under control numbers 3150-0058 and 3150-0057, respectively. The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless the document requesting or requiring the collection displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Should you have any questions on 10 CFR Part 75 reporting requirements, we encourage you to contact one of the individuals listed below:

Eduardo Sastre, International Safeguards Analyst <u>Eduardo.Sastre@nrc.gov</u> 301-415-3161

Mirabelle Shoemaker, International Safeguards Analyst <u>Mirabelle.Shoemaker@nrc.gov</u> 301-415-7363

David Hanks, Sr. International Safeguards Analyst David.Hanks@nrc.gov 301-415-7405

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact Eduardo Sastre of my staff by phone at (301) 415-3161 or via e-mail at Eduardo.Sastre@nrc.gov

Sincerely,

James Rubenstone, Chief Material Control and Accounting Branch Division of Fuel Management Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

#### Enclosures:

- 1. DOE/NRC Form 742, "Material Balance Report"
- 2. DOE/NRC Form 742C, "Physical Inventory Listing"
- 3. DOE/NRC Form 740M, "Concise Note"
- 4. DOE/NRC Form 741, "Nuclear Material Transaction Report"

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DATED: March 18, 2021

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