



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

August 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Hanson
Commissioner Baran
Commissioner Wright

FROM: Scott W. Moore, Executive Director
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards

SUBJECT: CHANGE IN FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE IN RESPONSE TO
SRM-COMSECY-21-0009

This memorandum is to inform the Commission that unless I receive different direction, I will ask the Office of the Secretary on Friday, August 27, 2021, to issue a *Federal Register* notice [FRN] with a slight change from the version that the Commission approved. The change is in response to Commission direction.

In Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM) COMSECY-21-0009, "Request to Solicit for the Appointment of a New Member on the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)," the Commission approved ACRS' request to solicit and approved the draft FRN, subject to edits. Additionally, the Commission directed:

"The ACRS should work with the Office of Chief Human Capital Officer [OCHCO] and the Office of Small Business and Civil Rights [SBCR] to evaluate current hiring practices to ensure existing criteria for screening, such as minimum years of experience, are not decreasing diversity of the candidate pool for these selections."

The accompanying draft FRN includes a statement that says:

"The candidates must also have at least 20 years of broad experience and a distinguished record of achievement in one or more areas of nuclear science and technology or related engineering disciplines."

On August 16, 2021, ACRS staff and I met with senior leaders from OCHCO and SBCR to begin addressing the current hiring practices regarding minimum years of experience. We concluded that to ensure existing criteria for experience do not decrease diversity of the candidate pool, the phrase "... at least 20 years of broad experience ..." should be changed to "... at least 20 years of education and experience ..." While ACRS Member appointments are

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not merit-staffing selections (rather, they are a nomination process, including self-nomination), the recommended wording is closer to the announcements that OCHCO uses for job postings. The change from “broad experience” to “education and experience” gives applicants equal recognition for time they spent both in education and obtaining experience, which may expand the candidate pool. Additionally, OCHCO and SBCR recommend that the change be made immediately in the current draft FRN.

This change is responsive to the Commission’s direction in SRM-COMSECY-21-0009. Because the Commission had already approved the draft FRN text, with edits, this memorandum informs the Commission that I will also include the additional change. Unless I receive different direction, on Friday, August 27, 2021, I will request the Secretary of the Commission to sign and issue the FRN.

Once the solicitation is out, I will continue to work with OCHCO and SBCR to review current hiring practices for ACRS Members, to ensure that existing criteria are not decreasing diversity of the candidate pool. An additional practice change is this solicitation has an open period for 90 days (vs. the normal 30 days) in order that we may inform a wider span of institutions (and potential candidates) about the Committee opening.

I trust that the changes are acceptable and address the Commission’s intent in the SRM.

Enclosure:
Draft Federal Register Notice

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SRM-COMSECY-21-0009 DATE: AUGUST 24, 2021

ADAMS Accession Nos.

Pkg: ML21236A296

Memo: ML21236A298

Enclosure: ML21236A297

***via email**

OFFICE	ED/ACRS*
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DATE	08/24/21

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