

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

SUNSI Review Complete  
Template=ADM-013  
E-RIDS=ADM-03  
ADD: Bridget Curran, Jim  
Steckel, Mary Neely

Comment (2)  
Publication Date: 5/3/2023  
Citation: 88 FR 27713

<b>As of:</b> 6/9/23, 10:54 AM
<b>Received:</b> May 30, 2023
<b>Status:</b> Pending_Post
<b>Tracking No.</b> lia-fjs3-0bd8
<b>Comments Due:</b> June 02, 2023
<b>Submission Type:</b> API

**Docket:** NRC-2023-0054

Draft Regulatory Guide: Quality Assurance Program Criteria (Design and Construction)

**Comment On:** NRC-2023-0054-0001

Draft Regulatory Guide: Quality Assurance Program Criteria (Design and Construction)

**Document:** NRC-2023-0054-DRAFT-0004

Comment on FR Doc # 2023-09160

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## Submitter Information

**Email:** tspires@a2la.org

**Organization:** American Association for Laboratory Accreditation

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## General Comment

A2LA invites your attention to the following attached comment. Thank you.

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## Attachments

NRC-2023-0054 A2LA Support Letter

NRC-2023-0054 A2LA Support Letter



May 30, 2023

Meraj Rahimi  
Chief, Regulatory Guide and Programs Management Branch  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A06, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001

**Nuclear Regulatory Commission: Draft Regulatory Guide: Quality Assurance Program Criteria  
Agency/Docket Number- NRC-2023-0054**

Dear Mr. Rahimi,

On behalf of the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA), I write issuing our public comment on the proposed Draft Regulatory Guide (DG), DG-1403. Specifically, to express our support and thanks for your endorsement of Nuclear Energy Institutes (NEI) 14-05A.

By way of background, A2LA is a non-profit accreditation body with over 4000 actively accredited certificates representing all 50 states. We have been granting accreditation to testing laboratories in various industries since 1979. We ourselves, as an internationally recognized accreditation body, have been evaluated against rigorous standards in providing accreditation services, as demonstrated in meeting ISO/IEC 17011.

We wish to express our support of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decision to endorse the Nuclear Energy Institutes "Guidelines for the Use of Accreditation in Lieu of Commercial Grade Surveys for Procurement of Laboratory Calibration and Test Services".

By relying on accreditation for the procurement of laboratory calibration and testing services, the NRC can be assured that the program;

- is impartial and independent,
- has the necessary industry expertise assessing the laboratories,
- ensures that the results of the calibrations are accurate,
- ensures that the laboratories are using appropriate methods and procedures, and
- ensures the laboratories have developed and implemented an effective management system.

In summary, relying on accreditation for the procurement of laboratory calibration and testing services offers the assurance of quality, technical competence, accuracy, compliance, and international recognition. It provides confidence in the reliability of measurement results, supports regulatory compliance, and facilitates international acceptance and collaboration. Thank you again for your willingness to accept the use of accreditation within your programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email at [rquery@A2LA.org](mailto:rquery@A2LA.org).

Sincerely,

Randall Query  
Director Government Relations  
American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)



May 30, 2023

Meraj Rahimi  
Chief, Regulatory Guide and Programs Management Branch  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research  
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