



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

January 13, 2026

MEMORANDUM TO: Kevin Williams, Acting Deputy Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

FROM: Michael Waters, Acting Director
Division of Preparedness and Response
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

m. waters

Signed by Waters, Michael
on 01/13/26

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF THE WATCHSTANDER
VOLUNTARY HEALTH PROGRAM

The purpose of this memorandum is to document management review of the operations branch (OB) watch stander voluntary health program (VHP) in accordance with division instruction DPR-OB-2. The previous review was documented on May 13, 2020, in Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) ML19290H615.

The watchstanders continue to utilize the VHP in accordance with DPR-OB-2 under the following requirements:

- Maintaining an open line of communication during their exercise.
- Limiting exercise to no more than 1 hour.
- Remaining available for immediate response to all emergencies and significant events.
- Accounting for all exercise time in the watch standers timecard by using appropriate pay codes.
- Notifying emergency medical services, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) central alarm station, the incident response manager on call and the OB chief if an injury were to occur.

Since its establishment, the VHP and OB were approved to procure a treadmill which is stationary next to the existing bicycle. The liability waiver originally approved by the office of general council and the office of human resources which is dated July 16, 2003, in ADAMS with number ML031980290, is equipment specific to utilizing the bicycle not the treadmill. Because of this, the operations branch developed a new VHP Liability Waiver (Attachment 1). The new waiver mirrors the existing NRC Fitness Center Waiver of Liability form (NRC Form 681) which is non-equipment specific. The Office of General Council has stated no legal objections to watch standers using the form in practice.

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MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF THE WATCHSTANDER VOLUNTARY HEALTH PROGRAM DATE January 21, 2026

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