

POLICY ISSUE
NOTATION VOTE

RESPONSE SHEET

TO: Carrie M. Safford, Secretary
FROM: Commissioner Crowell
SUBJECT: SECY-26-0042: Delegation of Authority to Approve Federal Register Notice Publication for Proposed State Agreements

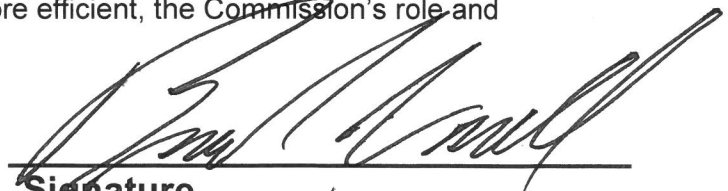
Approved Disapproved Abstain Not Participating

COMMENTS: Below Attached None

I approve eliminating the requirement for staff to submit a "first paper" to the Commission before publishing a proposed State Agreement and draft Staff Assessment in the Federal Register, and delegating authority to the NMSS Director to approve publication of these proposed FRN packages. The staff's proposed approach offers several advantages that support this recommendation. It is expected to improve efficiency by streamlining the initial review stage while preserving appropriate Commission oversight at key decision points. Historically, Commission comments on the first-stage paper have been minimal, suggesting that the early review serves primarily an informational, rather than decision-making, function. I also note that States pursuing either standard or limited-scope Agreements would benefit from the improved clarity and predictability afforded by the revised process. Importantly, the approach does not alter or diminish the Commission's authority. Any State request to assume regulatory authority over only specific activities within a broader materials category, or to adopt an optional program element, will continue to require explicit Commission approval. This ensures that, even as the process becomes more efficient, the Commission's role and responsibilities remain fully preserved.

Entered in STAR

Yes
No



Signature
4/29/2026

Date