

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Consolidated Guidance about Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance about Licenses
Authorizing Distribution To General Licensees

AGENCY: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

ACTION: Notice of Availability and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The NRC is announcing the availability of, and requesting comments on, draft NUREG-1556, Volume 16, "Consolidated Guidance about Materials Licenses: Program-Specific Guidance about Licenses Authorizing Distribution to General Licensees," dated September 1999. This draft NUREG report is the 16th program-specific guidance document developed to support an improved material licensing process. The NRC is using Business Process Redesign techniques to redesign its material licensing process, as described in NUREG-1539, "Methodology and Findings of the NRC's Materials Licensing Process Redesign." A critical element of the new process is consolidating and updating numerous guidance documents into a NUREG-series of reports.

This draft guide has been developed in parallel with the proposed rulemaking on 10 CFR Parts 30, 31, 32, 170, and 171, "Requirements for Certain Generally Licensed Industrial Devices Containing Byproduct Material." The proposed rule was published in the Federal Register on July 26, 1999 (64 FR 40295). Comments received in response to publication of this draft guidance will be considered in developing the final guide. Finalization of the guidance will continue to parallel the rulemaking, resulting in a guidance document that is

consistent with the final rule. It is intended for use by applicants, licensees, NRC license reviewers, and other NRC personnel.

NRC is requesting comments such as whether a risk-informed, performance-based approach to licensing is valid, as well as comments on the information provided. Note that this document is strictly for public comment and is not for use in preparing or reviewing applications, until it is published in final form.

DATES: The comment period ends (insert date 60 days after publication in the Federal Register). Comments received after that time will be considered if practicable.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Hand-deliver comments to 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Federal workdays. Comments may also be submitted through the Internet by addressing electronic mail to d1m1@nrc.gov.

Those considering public comment may request a free single copy of draft NUREG-1556, Volume 16, by writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Mrs. Sally L. Merchant, Mail Stop TWFN 9-F-31, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Alternatively, submit requests through the Internet by addressing electronic mail to slm2@nrc.gov. A copy of draft NUREG-1556, Volume 16, is also available for inspection and/or copying for a fee in the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW. (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20555-0001.

The Presidential Memorandum dated June 1, 1998, entitled, "Plain Language in Government Writing," directed that the Federal Government's writing be in plain language. The NRC specifically requests comments on this licensing guidance NUREG about the clarity and effectiveness of the language used. Comments should be sent to the address listed above.

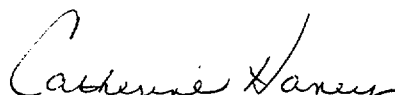
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mrs. Sally L. Merchant, Mail Stop TWFN 9-F-31, Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-7874; electronic mail address: slm2@nrc.gov.

Electronic Access

Draft NUREG-1556, Vol. 16 is available electronically by visiting NRC's Home Page (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/nucmat.html>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of November, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.


Catherine Haney, Acting Chief
Rulemaking and Guidance Branch
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS