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November 18, 1999

RESPONSE FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, BUREAU OF RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH to:

INFORMATION REQUEST ON RELEASE OF SOLID MATERIALS

We are seeking information on your current Agreement State program practices with respect to the release of solid materials (including soil), that have surface and/or volumetric contamination. The enclosed table excerpts criteria for release of sites for unrestricted use that Agreement States submitted to NRC in response to an All Agreement States Letter dated September 20, 1993 (SP-93-139). This reflects the current information we have on your State's release criteria for both Atomic Energy Act (AEA) and naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM). Please note that this attached table was inadvertently transmitted with All Agreement States Letter dated October 29, 1999 (SP-99-073). Your response to the six questions below, with respect to surficial and/or volumetric contamination of solid materials containing AEA material or NORM, would be greatly appreciated by November 12, 1999.

- 1. How were your State's radiological criteria derived and to what type of materials, (e.g., medical, pipe scale) do they apply? If Regulatory Guide 1.86 was used as a basis please indicate so, if another technical basis was used, please provide that basis.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Regulatory Guide 1.86, the Los Alamos Handbook and, for comparison purposes, Texas and Illinois radiation control regulations, were used in the development of He-P 4021.21. "Permissible Levels of Surface Contamination," of the New Hampshire Rules for the Control of Radiation (NHRCR). This section, as well as other sections related to radioactive material, refers to by-product, source and special nuclear material, as well as, naturally occurring and accelerator-produced radioactive material (NARM), which includes NORM.

- 2. How are your State's radiological criteria applied (e.g., through guidance, licensing actions, regulations)?

New Hampshire's radiological criteria for surface contamination is applied through regulation, while licensing action and guidance is used in applying radiological criteria for all other types of contamination.

- 3. What surveying/monitoring methodologies are used? If NUREG/CR-5849 or MARSSIM are used, please indicate so. If a State developed or another method is used, please provide that method.

Currently, only the NUREG/CR-5849 has been considered. While the MARSSIM methodology has not yet been used, in the future we will consider its use along with the NUREG/CR-5849 methodology.

- 4. What type of instruments (e.g., manual versus automated, hand-held versus stationary, barrel counters versus conveyor systems) and what sensitivity (i.e., lower limit of detection)

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values are used as selection criteria for instruments used in demonstrating compliance with the radiological criteria provided in response to Question 1?

Portable instruments used in situ, such as thin-end window G-M's, portable HPG MCA scintillation detectors, single-channel NaI analyzers, etc. along with radioanalytical laboratory-based HPG MCA systems, low-background proportional counters, and liquid scintillation systems, etc., all of which have the capability for meeting the MDA for application of Regulatory Guide 1.86 criteria, are used.

5. If your release criterion is zero, how do you have your licensees determine that a solid to be released is not radioactive or meets the zero criterion?

N/A. Our release criteria is not zero.

6. If any State licensees currently have volumetric release authorization, please identify the licensees and whether the quantities released are tracked, summarize the scope of these authorized activities, and provide the criteria used in granting the authorization.

N/A. There are no New Hampshire radioactive material licensees that have volumetric release authorization.

Enclosure: As stated