

D. Program Elements not Required for Compatibility

An Agreement State has the flexibility to adopt and implement program elements based on those of the Commission (other than those identified in A, B, and C above) or other program elements within the State's jurisdiction that are not addressed by NRC.

All program elements of an Agreement State relating to agreement material should:

Be compatible with those of the Commission (i.e., should not create conflicts, duplications, gaps, or other conditions that would jeopardize an orderly pattern in the regulation of agreement material on a nationwide basis);

Not preclude, or effectively preclude, a practice³ in the national interest without an adequate public health and safety or environmental basis related to radiation protection; or

Not preclude, or effectively preclude, the ability of the Commission to evaluate the effectiveness of the NRC and Agreement State programs for agreement material with respect to protection of public health and safety.

E. Areas of Exclusive NRC Regulatory Authority

These are program elements that address areas of regulation that cannot be relinquished to Agreement States pursuant to the AEA or provisions of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations. However, an Agreement State may inform its licensees of certain of these NRC provisions through a mechanism that is appropriate under the State's administrative procedure laws as long as the State adopts these provisions solely for the purposes of notification, and does not exercise any regulatory authority pursuant to them.

Summary and Conclusions

To foster and enhance a coherent and consistent nationwide program for the regulation of agreement material, the Commission encourages Agreement States to adopt and implement program elements that are patterned after those adopted and implemented by the Commission. However, the fact that an Agreement State's program is compatible with that of the Commission does not affect that State's obligation to maintain an adequate program as described in this Policy Statement.

³ "Practice" means a use, procedure, or activity associated with the application, possession, use, storage, or disposal of agreement material. The term "practice" is used in a broad and encompassing manner in this Policy Statement. The term encompasses both general activities involving use of radioactive materials such as industrial and medical uses and specific activities within a practice such as industrial radiography and brachytherapy.

By adopting the criteria for adequacy and compatibility as discussed in this Policy Statement the Commission will provide Agreement States a broad range of flexibility in the administration of individual programs. In doing so, the Commission allows Agreement States to fashion their programs so as to reflect specific State needs and preferences, recognizing the fact that Agreement States have responsibilities for radiation sources in addition to agreement material.

The Commission will minimize the number of NRC regulatory requirements that the Agreement States will be requested to adopt in an identical manner to maintain compatibility. At the same time, requirements in these compatibility categories will allow the Commission to ensure that an orderly pattern for the regulation of agreement material exists nationwide. The Commission believes that this approach achieves a proper balance between the need for Agreement State flexibility and the need for coordinated and compatible regulation of agreement material across the country.

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

These final policy statements do not contain new or amended information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Existing requirements were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0183.

Public Protection Notification

The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

In accordance with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, the NRC has determined that this action is not a major rule and has verified this determination with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB.

Dated at Rockville, Md., this 27th day of August, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John C. Hoyle,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-23330 Filed 9-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**Chemical Process Safety at Fuel Cycle Facilities; Availability of NUREG**

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is announcing the completion and availability of NUREG-1601, "Chemical Process Safety at Fuel Cycle Facilities," dated July 1997.

ADDRESSES: Copies of NUREG-1601 may be obtained by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 37082, Washington, DC 20402-9328. Copies are also available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161. A copy of the document 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Lidia Roché, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Telephone: 301-415-7830.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NRC is announcing the availability of NUREG-1601, "Chemical Process Safety at Fuel Cycle Facilities." NUREG-1601 is the first report to address chemical safety issues affecting fuel cycle facilities as they relate to the performance of an integrated safety analysis (Integrated Safety Analysis Guidance Document (Draft NUREG-1513)). NUREG-1601 was developed in conformance with the Memorandum of Understanding, between NRC and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which gives NRC regulatory authority over chemicals hazards that may impact NRC-licensed nuclear material, including: (a) Chemical risks posed by radioactive materials; (b) interactions of chemicals with NRC-licensed nuclear material; and (c) plant conditions that may directly or indirectly affect the licensed nuclear material in an adverse manner.

NUREG-1601 provides broad guidance on chemical safety issues relevant to fuel cycle facilities. It addresses chemical safety issues, relevant to fuel cycle facilities, as they pertain to the performance of an integrated safety analysis. It explains to license holders and applicants a general

philosophy of the role of chemical process safety in relation to NRC-licensed materials. It sets forth the basic information needed to properly evaluate chemical process safety. It describes plausible methods of identifying and evaluating chemical hazards and assessing the adequacy of the chemical safety of the proposed equipment and facilities. Examples of equipment and methods commonly used to prevent and/or mitigate the consequences of chemical incidents are discussed in this document.

NUREG-1601 highlights the importance of performing an adequate analysis of chemical hazards in processing licensed material at fuel cycle facilities, so as to reduce the potential for radiological and nonradiological exposures to workers and the public and to minimize releases to the environment. NUREG-1601 is not a substitute for the regulations, and compliance is not a requirement. This guidance document describes a general philosophy of the role of chemical process safety regarding NRC-licensed material.

Electronic Access

NUREG-1601 is also available electronically by visiting NRC's Home Page (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act

In accordance with the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Act of 1996, NRC has determined that this action is not a major rule and has verified this determination with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of August, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Theodore S. Sherr,

Chief, Regulatory and International Safeguards Branch, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 97-23337 Filed 9-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-U

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

Data Collection Form Required by OMB Circular No. A-133

AGENCY: Office of Management and Budget.

ACTION: Notice of availability of standard form.

SUMMARY: This Notice indicates the availability of the final "Data Collection Form for Reporting on Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations" (SF-SAC), which is required by Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."

ADDRESSES: Copies of the "Data Collection Form for Reporting on Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations" (SF-SAC) may be obtained from the OMB home page on the Internet which is currently located at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/OMB/Grants>. This standard form will soon be available from the OMB fax information line, 202-395-9068. Paper copies of the standard form are available from the Federal Audit Clearinghouse, Bureau of the Census, 1201 E. 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132, telephone 1-888-222-9907.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheila Conley (telephone: 202-395-3993), Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, 725-17th Street, N.W.—Room 6025, Washington, DC 20503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Notice indicates the availability of the final "Data Collection Form for Reporting on Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations" (SF-SAC), which is required by Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, recently re-titled "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations." Circular A-133, including the requirement to submit a SF-SAC, applies to audits of fiscal years beginning after June 30, 1996.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the first notice of the information collection request included in Circular A-133 was published in the November 5, 1996, **Federal Register** (61 FR 57232) as part of the proposed revision of Circular A-133. The second notice of announcing that this information collection request was submitted to OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) for processing under 5 CFR 1320.10, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act, was published in the **Federal Register** on June 30, 1997 (62 FR 35302) along with the final revision of Circular A-133 (62 FR 35278).

OMB received ten letters providing public comments in response to the June 30, 1997, **Federal Register** notice. The comment letters and OMB's responses are available for public

inspection in the OIRA docket library. All comments were considered in finalizing the information collection form. Several changes were made to the form and its accompanying instructions.

OIRA, acting for OMB, approved the information collection without conditions with an expiration date of August 31, 2000, and assigned a control number, 0348-0057. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, potential respondents are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number assigned by OMB (44 U.S.C. 3512(a)).

G. Edward DeSeve,

Controller.

[FR Doc. 97-23369 Filed 9-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3110-01-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Determination of Quarterly Rate of Excise Tax for Railroad Retirement Supplemental Annuity Program

In accordance with directions in Section 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act (26 U.S.C., Section 3221(c)), the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that the excise tax imposed by such Section 3221(c) on every employer, with respect to having individuals in his employ, for each work-hour for which compensation is paid by such employer for services rendered to him during the quarter beginning October 1, 1997, shall be at the rate of 35 cents.

In accordance with directions in Section 15(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that for the quarter beginning October 1, 1997, 31.4 percent of the taxes collected under Sections 3211(b) and 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Account and 68.6 percent of the taxes collected under such Sections 1211(b) and 3221(c) plus 100 percent of the taxes collected under Section 3221(d) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Supplemental Account.

Dated: August 25, 1997.

By Authority of the Board.

Beatrice Ezerski,

Secretary to the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-23322 Filed 9-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M