

August 3, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Michael F. Weber, Director
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
& Safeguards, NMSS

John W. Hickey, Chief
Materials Safety and Inspection Branch
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

FROM: Patricia K. Holahan, Chief /RA/
Rulemaking and Guidance Branch
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

SUBJECT: PERFORMANCE GOAL TO REDUCE UNNECESSARY
BURDEN IN THE MATERIALS SAFETY ARENA

The NRC strategic plan for the materials safety arena includes a performance goal of reducing unnecessary burden on stakeholders and a performance measure to reduce reporting and recordkeeping burden imposed by NRC on licensees by at least 25% over a 5-year period.

In seeking to accomplish the performance measure, the staff has developed a proposed plan (Attachment 1). This plan proposes that each division supporting the materials safety arena perform a thorough review of all areas within its program that have reporting and recordkeeping burden associated with them. This review should identify areas where reporting and recordkeeping requirements could be either reduced or eliminated while still maintaining public health, safety, and confidence. To facilitate this review, we have included in Attachment 2 burden values for those regulatory requirements and associated forms applicable to the materials safety arena.

Previous information provided by you indicated that for your areas of responsibility, the combined burden totals, excluding Part 20 and Part 35, are between 40 - 50% of the total reporting and recordkeeping burden of the materials safety arena. The issuance of the revised Part 35 will result in approximately a 12% net reduction in total burden for the materials safety arena. Reductions in the remaining Parts of 10 CFR for the materials arena could contribute significantly to the overall NMSS reduction in burden. It is recognized that Part 20 encompasses the reactor safety and waste safety arenas in addition to materials safety. A

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significant portion of the reporting and recordkeeping burden in Part 20 is directly associated with nuclear reactors. Furthermore, NRR has an ongoing effort to consider ways to reduce unnecessary regulatory burden. Therefore, any recommendations regarding the Part 20 reporting and recordkeeping burden will be coordinated with NRR as well as other NMSS divisions.

Please provide a contact person to Carrie Brown by August 17, 2001. After receipt of contact names, we will schedule a meeting to discuss the proposed plan in light of the existing budget as well as certain identified issues outlined in Attachment 3.

It should be noted that this performance goal of a 25% reduction is not included in the strategic plan for the waste safety arena. Therefore, at this time, we are not specifically addressing the reporting and recordkeeping burden in this arena. However, the agency goal of reducing unnecessary regulatory burden is considered during development of any rulemaking in the waste safety arena and should continue to be considered during OMB renewals.

Attachments: As stated

cc: D. A. Cool, IMNS
J. T. Greeves, DWM
E. W. Brach, SFPO

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