

July 8, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO: George C. Pangburn, Director, DNMS, RI
Douglas M. Collins, Director, DNMS, RII
Marc L. Dapas, Acting Director, DNMS, RIII
Elmo E. Collins, Director, DNMS, RIV

FROM: Charles L. Miller, Director
Division of Industrial and Medical
Nuclear Safety, NMSS **/RA/**

SUBJECT: INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR PRE-LICENSING VISITS TO VERIFY
THE LEGITIMACY OF CERTAIN NEW APPLICANTS AND TO
PROTECT AGAINST MALEVOLENT TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

The need for verification of the validity of new licensee information, to assure they are who they claim to be, has taken on increased relevance in light of potential malevolent terrorist activities. On February 24-25, 2003, the NMSS/DNMS Directors' counterpart meeting identified the need to implement as soon as possible interim guidance for pre-licensing visits of new applicants. Regions were asked to designate staff to manually verify the legitimacy of new applicants. IMNS agreed to develop interim guidance for pre-licensing visits.

The attached interim guidance supplements and will be incorporated into the next revision of NUREG-1556, Volume 20, "Consolidated Guidance About Materials Licenses, Guidance About Administrative Licensing Procedures." The interim guidance addresses the purpose, scope, and process for pre-licensing visits and identifies DNMS actions to be coordinated with NMSS.

This interim guidance is applicable to certain radionuclides and quantities of concern. The process involves identification of an application which is within the scope of the guidance and steps to complete a pre-licensing visit which will identify significant discrepancies or deficiencies in the new application information. The guidance indicates that DNMS will coordinate with NMSS on a case by case basis to deny an application in which DNMS has any question about the applicant's suitability, integrity, or ability or commitment to comply with NRC regulations (e.g., 10 CFR 30.33, 40.32, 70.23).

Attachment: Interim Guidance for
Pre-Licensing Visits

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