

September 12, 2011

ALL STATE LIAISON OFFICERS
ALL RADIATION CONTROL PROGRAM DIRECTORS

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT STANDARD PROTOCOL FOR STATE
COMMUNICATIONS ON UNINTENDED RELEASES OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL
(FSME-11-086)

Purpose: To provide the enclosed Draft Standard Protocol for State Communications on Unintended Releases of Radioactive Material for review and comment within 30 days of the date of this letter.*

Background: The development of a standard protocol for engaging States on unintended releases of radioactive material from U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulated facilities is an outgrowth of a recommendation in the June 2010 NRC staff Groundwater Task Force Report (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML101680435). The standard protocol development was also noted in the staff's February 9, 2011 memorandum to the Commission on initiatives for improved communication of groundwater incidents (ADAMS Accession Number ML110050252).

Discussion: The standard protocol serves as guidance to NRC staff and does not involve a change in Commission policy. The protocol supplements NRC staff's long standing communications practice and policy (57 FR 6462, February 25, 1992), as outlined in

* This information request has been approved by OMB 3150-0029 expiration 11/30/2013. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection is approximately 8 hours. Send comments regarding the burden estimate to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet e-mail to infocollects@nrc.gov, and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202 (3150-0029), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose an information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information collection.

* This information request has been approved by OMB 3150-0163, expiration 01/31/2013. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection is approximately 8 hours. Send comments regarding the burden estimate to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet e-mail to infocollects@nrc.gov, and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202 (3150-0163), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose an information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information collection.

Management Directive 5.2, "Cooperation with States at Commercial Nuclear Power Plants and Other Production or Utilization Facilities," dated October 29, 2010, and FSME Procedure SL-100, "Regional State Liaison Officers (RSLOs)," dated July 14, 2010. These documents can be viewed at <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1022/ML102220529.pdf> and <http://nrc-stp.ornl.gov/procedures/sl100.pdf>, respectively.

The NRC staff believes that through our long standing relationship, States can help facilitate the timely dissemination of information involving unintended releases of radioactive material to not only Governors and other State and local agencies, but also to the public health community. These State contacts and organizations can help to further disseminate such information in a consistent and timely manner to the general public.

If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact me at (301) 415-7278, or the individual named below.

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/RA/

Josephine M. Piccone, Director
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and Rulemaking
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure:
As stated

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As stated

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ML112140369

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