



**IAEA**

*Atoms for Peace and Development*

الوكالة الدولية للطاقة الذرية

国际原子能机构

International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

Международное агентство по атомной энергии

Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica

Vienna International Centre, PO Box 100, 1400 Vienna, Austria

Phone: (+43 1) 2600 • Fax: (+43 1) 26007

Email: Official.Mail@iaea.org • Internet: <http://www.iaea.org>

In reply please refer to: **J5.03.01**

Dial directly to extension: (+43 1) 2600-22744

The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) presents its compliments to the IAEA's Member States and has the honour to draw their attention to the following draft safety standard:

***Application of the Concept of Exemption  
(DS499)***

Member States and their experts are hereby provided with an opportunity to review and evaluate this draft safety standard, which is available online at:

<https://www.iaea.org/resources/safety-standards/draft-standards-for-ms-comment>

A hard copy of the draft text will be sent out upon request.

Any proposed changes to this draft text resulting from the review by Member States will be taken into account in the finalization of the safety standard.

Member States are kindly requested to provide comments on the draft text following the guidance given in the attached Explanatory Note.

The Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency avails itself of this opportunity to assure the IAEA's Member States of its highest consideration.



2021-03-05

Enclosures: Explanatory Note

Form for Comments

Statement by the Commission on Safety Standards



## Explanatory Note

### *Application of the Concept of Exemption* (DS499)

The draft text for review, entitled *Application of the Concept of Exemption*, was prepared as a draft Safety Guide to be issued in the IAEA Safety Standards Series.

The draft text has already been reviewed through consultants' meetings, as well as by the Radiation Safety Standards Committee (RASSC), the Transport Safety Standards Committee (TRANSSC), and the Waste Safety Standards Committee (WASSC).

The objective of this draft text, as accepted by the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS), is to provide recommendations and guidance on the application of the concept of exemption within the framework of planned exposure situations in accordance with the requirements of GSR Part 3. The draft is part of the revision of the existing safety guide *Application of the Concepts of Exclusion, Exemption and Clearance* (RS-G-1.7) dealing with the concept of exemption (DS499). A second part, dealing with the concept of clearance (DS500), is also being submitted in parallel for comment.

The two draft safety guides cover similar subject matter to that in RS-G-1.7, but have been updated in line with the experiences of Member States and use the newer concepts and definitions, such as the different exposure situations, established in GSR Part 3. DS499 will be of particular value for regulatory bodies in Member States in applying the relevant requirements in GSR Part 3 relating to the exemption of a source or practice from regulatory control. The current draft also provides guidance on the concept of exclusion and on the application of an exemption approach using screening levels for decision making in existing exposure situations including trade.

The guidance in this publication is aimed primarily at Governments and Regulatory Bodies to assist them in the application of the requirements of GSR Part 3 related to the exemption of sources and practices from regulatory control. It will be of wide interest to all those who intend to handle sources or materials containing radionuclides or radiation generators as well as trade organizations.

Comments are requested in relation to:

- Relevance and usefulness: Are the stated objectives appropriate, and are they met by the draft text?
- Scope and completeness: Is the scope appropriate, and is it adequately covered by the draft text?
- Quality and clarity: Does the guidance in the draft text represent the current consensus among specialists in the field, and is this guidance expressed clearly and coherently?

Specific comments on the following two points are requested:

1. Feedback on the retention of the text dealing with existing exposure situations, including trade, in the draft safety guide DS499. (Agree/disagree)
2. Feedback on whether to merge both documents DS499 (exemption) and DS500 (clearance) or to continue with two separate guides as developed.

Comments of an editorial nature will be considered; however, it should be noted that the draft text will be comprehensively edited by the IAEA Secretariat.

Any comments should be made in English, should refer to the relevant paragraph number in the draft text being reviewed, and should propose alternative text where appropriate. Please use the attached Form for Comments to record all comments.

The responsible IAEA officer is Mr Haridasan Pappinisseri of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, who may be contacted for further information in connection with this subject by telephone at: +43 1 2600 22744 or via email at: [H.Pappinisseri@iaea.org](mailto:H.Pappinisseri@iaea.org).

Any comments should be sent through the established official channels to the responsible IAEA officer by **6 July 2021**.

**Form for Comments**  
*Application of the Concept of Exemption*  
**(DS499)**

COMMENTS BY REVIEWER				RESOLUTION			
Reviewer: Country/Organization:		Page.... of.... Date:					
Comment No.	Para/Line No.	Proposed new text	Reason	Accepted	Accepted, but modified as follows	Rejected	Reason for modification/rejection



## Statement by the Commission on Safety Standards

Publications in the IAEA Safety Standards Series are prepared and reviewed in accordance with a uniform process. To this end, the Commission on Safety Standards (CSS) and five committees with harmonized terms of reference — the Emergency Preparedness and Response Standards Committee (EPRaSC), the Nuclear Safety Standards Committee (NUSSC), the Radiation Safety Standards Committee (RASSC), the Transport Safety Standards Committee (TRANSSC) and the Waste Safety Standards Committee (WASSC) — have been established. The CSS has a special overview role with regard to the IAEA's safety standards and provides advice to the Director General on the IAEA's overall programme with regard to regulatory aspects of safety.

The uniform preparation and review process involves organizing expert group meetings; arranging at different stages of preparation for the internal review of draft texts; submitting the texts to the relevant Committee(s) for review; submitting draft texts to the IAEA's Member States for comment; and submitting the approved final draft of the safety standard<sup>1</sup> for endorsement by the CSS before publication.

The CSS stresses the importance of Member States' comments to the preparation and review process for safety standards. Publications in the IAEA Safety Standards Series not only should be of the requisite quality but also should represent the consensus view of the Member States and should address the issues of importance to the Member States. While the CSS, the Committees and the Secretariat strive to provide safety standards that satisfy these criteria, the review of draft standards by experts in the Member States is an essential stage in obtaining the broadest possible technical consensus and the highest possible quality and relevance.

Member States are also encouraged to provide the IAEA with feedback on their use of the safety standards. The status of safety standards extant and in preparation can be seen on the IAEA's website, where there are also links to electronic files for existing publications, including those in other official languages.<sup>2</sup> The responsible IAEA officer is Mr Dominique Delattre, Head of the Safety and Security Publications Unit of the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security. He may be contacted for further information in connection with this subject by telephone at: + 43 1 2600 22696 or via email at: [D.Delattre@iaea.org](mailto:D.Delattre@iaea.org).

---

<sup>1</sup> Safety Guides are published under the authority of the Director General. Safety Fundamentals and Safety Requirements publications require the approval of the Board of Governors, after endorsement by the CSS.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www-ns.iaea.org/committees/files/CSS/205/status.pdf>.