

SUMMARY OF SRMS

SRM dated March 20, 1997, “COMSECY-96-057, Materials/Medical Oversight” (DSI 7)

Issued in response to Direction Setting Issue 7 (DSI 7), “Materials/Medical Oversight”

Stated that the NRC supports continuation of the existing medical oversight program (with improvements) and for decreased oversight of low-risk activities with a continued emphasis in high-risk activities. It stated, in part, that “NRC would utilize the risk-informed performance-based approach, as discussed in DSI 12, to determine which activities in the materials area, and specifically in the medical area, are low-risk activities.”

SRM dated April 15, 1997, COMSECY-96-061, “Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulation” (DSI 12)

Issued in response to Direction Setting Issue 12 (DSI-12), “Risk-Informed “Risk-Informed, Performance-Based Regulation”

The Commission indicated that, in the future, the regulatory focus should be on those licensee activities that pose the greatest risk to the public. It further indicated that accomplishment of that focus would depend on increased use of probabilistic risk assessment concepts or other approaches that would allow a graded approach for determining high- and low-risk activities. The staff was directed to identify and prioritize areas of nuclear material regulation that were, or could be made amenable to, risk-informed, performance-based, or risk-informed, less-prescriptive, approaches, with minimal additional staff effort/resources.

SRM dated April 13, 1998, SECY-97-273, SECY-96-221, “Improving NRC’s Control Over, and Licensees’ Accountability for, Generally and Specifically Licensed Devices”

Related to “Improving NRC’s Control Over, and Licensees’ Accountability for, Generally and Specifically Licensed Devices”

Item 4 of this SRM states, in part, that the staff should “Use the results of the materials risk assessment study to restructure the current licensing and materials program. Consider the findings when determining whether additional sources/devices should be subject to registration and follow-up, and for performing the risk ranking necessary if a phase-in approach is used...Review the basis of the general licenses for adequacy with respect to consideration of the consequences of off-site accidents...provide the technical basis document for the risk assessment together with recommendations on how to proceed.”

SRM dated December 21, 1998, SECY-98-232, “Seaman Nuclear’s Application for a License to Distribute Portable Moisture Density Gauges to General Licensees”

Related to SECY-98-232, “Seaman Nuclear’s Application for a License to Distribute Portable Moisture Density Gauges to General Licensees”

The Commission directed the staff to consider the results of the Materials risk Study and what effect the staff’s recommendations from the Risk Study have on the proposed license for Seaman Nuclear. Additionally, as part of the Materials Risk Study, the staff was directed to review 10 CFR 32.51(a)(2)(iii) and consequences of losses and subsequent accidents of such devices, and provide the Commission with its review along with recommendations as to whether this section of the regulations should be amended.

Additionally, the Commission noted that 10 CFR 32.51(a)(2)(iii) does not specify consideration of the consequences of losses and subsequent accidents of such devices. The Commission directed the staff, as part of its Materials Risk Study, to provide the Commission with a review of this aspect together with recommendations as to whether this section of the regulations should be amended to address this issue.