

**Exhibit 1**

**Statement of Policy on “Cooperation With States at  
Commercial Nuclear Power Plants and Other Nuclear  
Production or Utilization Facilities”  
(57 FR 6462, February 25, 1992)**

It is the NRC's policy to cooperate fully with State governments as they seek to respond to the expectations of their citizens that their health and safety be protected and that there be minimal impact on the environment as a result of activities licensed by the NRC. The NRC and the States have complementary responsibilities in protecting public health and safety and the environment. Furthermore, the NRC is committed to the full and timely disclosure of matters affecting the public and to the fair and uniform handling of all agency interactions with the States, the public, and NRC licensees.

Accordingly, the NRC will continue to keep Governor-appointed State Liaison Officers routinely informed on matters of interest to the States. The NRC will respond in a timely manner to a State's requests for information and its recommendations concerning matters within the NRC's regulatory jurisdiction. If requested, the NRC will routinely inform State Liaison Officers of public meetings between NRC and its licensees and applicants in order that State representatives may attend as observers. Additionally, at the State's request, representatives from a State in which the NRC-licensed facility is located (the host State) and from a State within the plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone (EPZ) (within approximately a 10-mile radius) of an NRC-licensed facility located in another State (the adjacent State) will be able to observe specific inspections and/or inspection entrance and exit meetings where State representatives are knowledgeable in radiological health and safety matters.

The Commission recognizes that the involvement of qualified State representatives in NRC radiological health and safety programs has the potential for providing additional safety benefit. Therefore, the NRC will consider State proposals to enter into instruments of cooperation for State participation in inspections and inspection entrance and exit meetings. State participation in NRC programs would allow qualified State representatives from States in which an NRC-licensed facility is located, either individually or as a member of a team, to conduct specific inspection activities in accordance with NRC standards, regulations, and procedures in close cooperation with

**Volume 5, Governmental Relations and Public Affairs**  
**Memoranda of Understanding With States**  
**Handbook 5.2 Exhibits**

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**Exhibit 1** (continued)

the NRC. State activities will normally be conducted under the oversight of an authorized NRC representative with the degree of oversight dependent upon the activity involved. In the proposal to enter into an instrument of cooperation, the State must identify those activities for which cooperation with the NRC is desired. The State must propose a program that: (1) recognizes the Federal Government, primarily NRC, as having the exclusive authority and responsibility to regulate the radiological and national security aspects of the construction and operation of nuclear production or utilization facilities, except for certain authority over air emissions granted to States by the Clean Air Act; (2) is in accordance with Federal standards and regulations; (3) specifies minimum education, experience, training, and qualifications requirements for State representatives which are patterned after those of NRC inspectors; (4) contains provisions for the findings of State representatives to be transmitted to NRC for disposition; (5) would not impose an undue burden on the NRC and its licensees and applicants; and (6) abides by NRC protocol not to publicly disclose inspection findings prior to the release of the NRC inspection report.

Consistent with section 274c of the Act, the NRC will not consider State proposals for instruments of cooperation that do not include the elements listed above, which are designed to ensure close cooperation and consistency with the NRC inspection program. As a practical matter, the NRC is concerned that independent State inspection programs could direct an applicant's or licensee's attention to areas not consistent with NRC safety priorities, misinterpret NRC safety requirements, or give the perception of dual regulation. For purposes of this policy statement, an independent State inspection program is one in which State representatives would conduct inspections and assess NRC-regulated activities on a State's own initiative and authority without close cooperation with, and oversight by, an authorized NRC representative.

Instruments of cooperation between the NRC and the States, approved prior to the date of this policy statement will continue to be honored by the NRC. The NRC strongly encourages those States holding these agreements to consider modifying them, if necessary, to bring them into conformance with the provisions of this policy statement.

**Implementation**

As provided in the policy statement the NRC will routinely keep State Liaison Officers informed on matters of interest to the States. In general, all State requests should come

**Volume 5, Governmental Relations and Public Affairs**  
**Memoranda of Understanding With States**  
**Handbook 5.2 Exhibits**

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**Exhibit 1** (continued)

from the State Liaison Officer to the appropriate NRC Regional Office. The NRC will make every effort to respond as fully as possible to all requests from States for information on matters concerning nuclear production, or utilization facility safety within 30 days. The NRC will work to achieve a timely response to State recommendations relating to the safe operation of nuclear production or utilization facilities. Host State or adjacent State representatives are free to attend as observers any public meeting between the NRC and its applicant and licensees. The appropriate Regional Office will routinely inform State Liaison Officers of the scheduling of public meetings upon request. Requests from host States and adjacent States to observe inspections and/or inspection entrance and exit meetings conducted by the NRC require the approval of the appropriate Regional Administrator.

NRC will consider host State participation in inspections and the inspection entrance and exit meetings, where the State-proposed agreement identifies the specific inspections they wish to assist NRC with and provides a program containing those elements as described in the policy statement. NRC may develop inspection plans along with qualified State representatives using applicable procedures in the NRC Inspection Manual. Qualified State representatives may be permitted to perform inspections in cooperation with, and on behalf of, the NRC under the oversight of an authorized NRC representative. The degree of oversight provided would depend on the activity. For instance, State representatives may be accompanied by an NRC representative initially, in order to assess the State inspectors' preparedness to conduct the inspection individually. Other activities may be conducted as a team with NRC taking the lead. All enforcement action will be undertaken by the NRC.

The Commission will decide policy matters related to agreements proposed under this policy statement. Once the Commission has decided the policy on a specific type of agreement, similar State-proposed agreements may be approved, consistent with Commission policy, by the Executive Director for Operations. A State-proposed instrument of cooperation will be documented in a formal MOU signed by NRC and the State.

Once the NRC has decided to enter into an MOU for State involvement in NRC inspections, a formal review, not less than six months after the effective date, will be performed by the NRC to evaluate implementation of the MOU and resolve any problems identified. Final agreements will be subject to periodic reviews and may be

**Volume 5, Governmental Relations and Public Affairs**  
**Memoranda of Understanding With States**  
**Handbook 5.2 Exhibits**

---

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**Exhibit 1** (continued)

amended or modified upon written agreement by both parties and maybe terminated upon 30 days written notice by either party.

Additionally, once State involvement in NRC activities at a nuclear production or utilization facility is approved by the NRC, the State is responsible for meeting all requirements of an NRC licensee and applicant related to personal safety and unescorted access of State representatives at the site.

**Exhibit 1 (continued)**  
**Appendix A**  
**Protocol Agreement for State Observation**  
**of NRC Inspections**

**NRC Protocol:**

- The Regional State Liaison Officer (RSLO) will normally be the lead individual responsible for tracking requests for State observation, assuring consistency regarding these requests, and for advising the Regional Administrator on the disposition of these requests. The appropriate technical representative or Division Director will communicate with the State on specific issues concerning the inspection(s).
- Requests for observations of Headquarters-based inspections will also be coordinated through the RSLO. Headquarters-based inspections should be referred through the RSLO to a technical representative designated by the Region.
- NRC will process written requests to the Regional Administrator through the State Liaison Officer (SLO). Requests should identify the type of inspection activity and facility the State wishes to observe.
- Limits on scope and duration of the observation period may be imposed if, in the view of the Regional Administrator, they compromise the efficiency or effectiveness of the inspection. Regions should use their discretion as to which, if any, inspections will be excluded from observations.
- States will be informed they must not release information concerning the time and purpose of unannounced inspections.
- The Region will make it clear to the licensee that the State views are not necessarily endorsed by NRC. The Region will also make it clear that only NRC has regulatory authority for inspection findings and enforcement actions regarding radiological health and safety.

**Exhibit 1** (continued)

**State Protocol:**

- A State will make advance arrangements with the licensee for site access training and badging (subject to fitness for duty requirements), prior to the actual inspection.
- Normally, no more than one individual will be allowed to observe an NRC inspection.
- The State will be responsible for determining the technical and professional competence of its representatives who accompany NRC inspectors.
- An observer's communication with the licensee will be through the appropriate NRC team member, usually the senior resident inspector or the team leader.
- When informed of an unannounced inspection, a State must not release information concerning its time and purpose.
- An observer will remain in the company of NRC personnel throughout the course of the inspection.
- State observation may be terminated by the NRC if the observer's conduct interferes with a fair and orderly inspection.
- An observer will not be provided with proprietary or safeguards information. Observers will not remove any material from the site without NRC or licensee approval.
- The State observer, in accompanying the NRC inspectors, does so at his or her own risk. NRC will not be responsible for injuries or exposures to harmful substances which may occur to the accompanying individual during the inspection and will assume no liability for any incidents associated with the accompaniment.

**Volume 5, Governmental Relations and Public Affairs**  
**Memoranda of Understanding With States**  
**Handbook 5.2 Exhibits**

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**Exhibit 1** (continued)

**State Protocol:** (continued)

- The State observer will be expected to adhere to the same conduct as NRC inspectors during an inspection accompaniment.
- If the State observer notices any apparent non-conformance with safety or regulatory requirements during the inspection, he/she will make those observations promptly known to the NRC team leader or lead inspector. Likewise, when overall conclusions or views of the State observer are substantially different from those of the NRC inspectors, the State will advise the team leader or lead inspector and forward those views, in writing, to the NRC Region. This will allow NRC to take any necessary regulatory actions.
- Under no circumstances should State communications regarding these inspections be released to the public or the licensee before they are reviewed by the NRC and the inspection report is issued. State communications may be made publicly available, similar to NRC inspection reports, after they have been transmitted to and reviewed by NRC.

**Adjacent State Protocol:**

- An adjacent State is a State within the plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone (EPZ) (within approximately a 10-mile radius) of an NRC-licensed facility located in another State. A host State is a State in which an NRC-licensed facility is located. An adjacent State may request permission to observe NRC inspections at an NRC-licensed facility in a host State.
- The adjacent State SLO must communicate his/her request for observation to the Regional Administrator for the region in which the facility is located.
- The adjacent State SLO must also communicate his/her request to the host State SLO so that each State is aware of the other's intentions.

**Volume 5, Governmental Relations and Public Affairs**  
**Memoranda of Understanding With States**  
**Handbook 5.2 Exhibits**

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**Exhibit 1** (continued)

**Adjacent State Protocol:** (continued)

- If a host State and an adjacent State request observation of the same inspection, the Regional Administrator will make the final determination on the number of State observers who may attend the inspection. If there is a need to limit the number of observers, the Regional Administrator will routinely give preference to the host State observers.
  
- Adjacent State observers will abide by the same protocol in all aspects of the inspection as host States under this agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of State Observer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date