



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, VERMONT, WYOMING
STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON DRAFT REVISION TO THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR
MATERIAL SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS PROCEDURE SA-113, *PLACING AN AGREEMENT
STATE PROGRAM ON PROBATION* (STC-16-XXX)

Purpose: To provide the Agreement States, Vermont, Wyoming, and State Liaison Officers an opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions to the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) Procedure SA-113, *Placing an Agreement State Program on Probation*.

Background: This procedure is being revised to update current practices and guidance, to address organizational changes, and to address recommendations from the July 2014 tabletop exercise.

Discussion: Enclosed for your review and comment is the draft revision to NMSS Procedure SA-113, *Placing an Agreement State on Probation*. This document describes the procedure for placing an Agreement State program on probation when the Nuclear Regulatory Commission finds that program weaknesses exist, which affects the adequacy and compatibility of the program.

Probation is a formal process that allows the NRC to maintain an increased level of communication with an Agreement State program experiencing program weaknesses. An Agreement State program may be placed on probation as a result of program weaknesses which require increased NRC oversight. The NRC Regional and Headquarters staff participated in a tabletop exercise in July 2014 involving the simulated return of an Agreement State program and the reestablishment of NRC authority. One of the recommendations resulting from the exercise was that the probation process needed to be more nimble and streamlined, and a consistent level of Commission involvement needed to be applied when determining probation, emergency suspension, suspension, and termination of an Agreement State program. The proposed changes to SA-113 address those aspects of the probationary process. In the proposed revision to SA-113, the Executive Director for Operations (EDO) would decide to place or lift probation for an Agreement State program following a consultation with the Commission, and the Agreement State would be informed by a letter.

Please provide any comments on SA-113. We would appreciate receiving your comments¹ within 30 days from the date of this letter.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me at (301) 415-3340 or the individual named below:

POINT OF CONTACT: Joe O'Hara
TELEPHONE: (301) 415-6854

E-MAIL: Joe.OHara@nrc.gov

Daniel S. Collins, Director
Division of Material Safety, State, Tribal
and Rulemaking Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:
NMSS SA-113, *Placing an Agreement
State Program on Probation*

¹This information request has been approved by OMB 3150-0029 expiration 1/31/2019. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection is approximately 20 minutes. Send comments regarding the burden estimate to the FOIA, Privacy, and Information Collections Branch, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by e-mail to infocollects.resource@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.

