

NRC Staff Considerations for Revisions to Radiation Protection Standards

Advisory Committee on Medical Uses of Isotopes

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International Developments

- ICRP Recommendations published in December, 2007, ICRP Publication 103
- IAEA revision of BSS underway
- European Union revision of Euratom BSS underway
- Staff reviewing impact as directed by Commission in SRM-SECY-01-0148



Revision of NRC Regulations

- NRC staff developing options for Commission consideration
- Senior Technical Group and Steering Group
- Options due to Commission in December 2008





Background

- Considering all parts of regulations, including those not revised in 1991
- Some portions of regulations and guidance date back to ICRP Publication 2 (1959)
- Rationale for action may include adequate protection, updating scientific information, transboundary implications, and achieving consistency of approach.





Outline of Options Paper

- · Regulatory Options
- · Technical Options

· Administrative Options



Regulatory Options

- · Status Quo Make no changes
 - Realign Part 50 and Part 50 Appendix I to Existing Part 20 under the status quo
- Align to ICRP Publication 103 (2007)
 - Revise Part 20 only
 - Revise Part 20, Part 50, and Part 50 Appendix I
 - Revise all 10 CFR Chapter I







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Technical Options for Part 20

- · Total Effective Dose
- · Constraints for occupational exposure
- Dose limits
 - Occupational
 - Public
- Embryo/fetus of Declared Pregnant Female
- Numerical values of weighting factors and Appendix B





Administrative Options

- Begin Rulemaking Activities Now
- Delay Rulemaking while continuing with Technical Basis Development and Stakeholder Interactions
- · Packaging for Actions
 - Part 20 and Part 50 Together
 - Part 20 and Part 50 Separately
 - Timing for other Parts





Points to Ponder

- Changes to the radiation protection framework could be significant, impacting all types of licensees, and Agreement States
- Much of the effort would be guidance and code updates to support regulations.
- Technical basis work still in progress. When is the right time to move to rulemaking?
- How do we effectively gauge benefits and impacts?





