

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AND STATE MATERIALS
AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS
WASHINGTON, DC 20555-0001

October 3, 2008

**NRC REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY 2008-23
THE GLOBAL THREAT REDUCTION INITIATIVE (GTRI) DOMESTIC
THREAT REDUCTION PROGRAM & FEDERALLY FUNDED
VOLUNTARY SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS
FOR HIGH-RISK RADIOLOGICAL MATERIAL**

ADDRESSEES

All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Materials Licensees authorized to possess Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive materials. All Agreement State Radiation Control Program Directors and State Liaison Officers. Members of the Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes.

INTENT

The NRC is issuing this Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) to inform select materials licensees of the latest developments in materials security. This RIS requires no specific action, or written response.

BACKGROUND

The NRC is making licensees aware of the Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) Domestic Threat Reduction Program. This is a voluntary program sponsored by the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and the Department of Homeland Security, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO), and supported by the NRC and the Agreement State Radiation Control Programs. The objective of the GTRI Domestic Threat Reduction Program is to further increase the protection of high risk radiological sources.

Under the program, GTRI security experts provide security assessments, share observations and make recommendations for enhancing material security. When appropriate, NNSA or DNDO pays for the installation of agreed upon security enhancements. Typical security enhancements include automated access control, motion sensors, radiation sensors, electronic seals, alarm control and display systems, remote monitoring to off-site response locations, enhanced security force communications and protection equipment, delay elements, and transportation security enhancements, when appropriate.

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SUMMARY OF ISSUE

While licensees regulated by NRC and Agreement States are responsible for the safety and security of licensed sources and meeting current regulatory requirements, the NRC and the Agreement States encourage licensees to work cooperatively with manufacturers, regulators, and other Federal, State, and local authorities to look for opportunities to further enhance the security of their sources and devices and incorporate best practices as applicable and appropriate. The GTRI staff and contractors have valuable perspectives and experience on best practices from visiting multiple licensees and operations. The recommended security enhancements from the security assessments would be supplementary to, and consistent with, the NRC's and Agreement States Increased Controls requirements. However, this voluntary program does not replace or diminish the licensee's responsibility to comply with the Increased Controls requirements or other regulatory requirements. The NRC and Agreement State regulator, as applicable, will be notified by NNSA or DNDO prior to conducting a security assessment at a licensee facility. In addition, NRC and Agreement States encourage licensees to discuss the recommended voluntary enhancements with their regulatory agency and clarify any questions that licensees may have regarding their specific enhancements. The GTRI domestic security program services are free. When appropriate, NNSA or DNDO pays for the installation of agreed upon security enhancements. The enclosure to this RIS contains additional information.

FEDERAL REGISTER NOTIFICATION

A notice of opportunity for public comment on this RIS was not published in the *Federal Register* because this RIS is informational and does not represent a departure from current regulatory requirements.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT

This RIS is not a rule as designated by the Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 801-808) and, therefore, is not subject to the Act.

RELATED GENERIC COMMUNICATIONS

RIS 2008-02, "Actions to Increase the Security of High Activity Sources."

RIS 2008-17, "Voluntary Security Enhancements for Self-Contained Irradiators Containing Cesium Chloride Sources"

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

This RIS does not contain any information collections and, therefore, is not subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.)

CONTACT

If licensees have specific questions regarding the Domestic Threat Reduction Program and/or would like to express interest in participating, please contact Mr. Craig Johnson, DOE/NNSA at 202-586-3755 or craig.johnson@nnsa.doe.gov.

This RIS requires no specific action or written response. For licensing questions please contact the appropriate regional office listed below. For other NRC related questions, please contact one of the individuals from my office as listed below.

/RA/Terrence Reis for//

Robert J. Lewis, Director
Division of Materials Safety
and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

- Enclosure: 1. Federally Funded Voluntary security Enhancements for High-Risk Radiological Material
2. List of Recently Issued Office of Federal and State Material and Environmental Management Programs Generic Communications

Regional Contacts: Judith Joustra, Region I
(610) 337-6942
Email: Judith.Joustra@nrc.gov

Kevin Null, Region III
(630) 829-9854
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Maria Arribas-Colon, FSME
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CONTACT

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Technical Contacts: Doug Broaddus, FSME (301) 415-8124 E-mail: Doug.Broaddus@nrc.gov Maria Arribas-Colon, FSME (301) 415-6026 E-mail: Maria.Arribas-Colon@nrc.gov

OFFICE	DMSSA/SSSB	SSSB	DMSSA/MSEAB	DMSSA	OIS
NAME	MArribas-Colon	AMauer	AMcIntosh	TReis	TDonnell
DATE	09/10/08	09/10/08	09/12/08	09/17/08	09/16/08
OFFICE	NSIR	OGC - NLO	OGC - NLO	DMSSA	
NAME	RCorreia	MSmith for TRothschild	JZorn for BJones	RLewis (TReis for)	
DATE	09/17/08	09/16/08	09/19/08	09/25/08	

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Federally Funded Voluntary Security Enhancements for High-Risk Radiological Material

Purpose

To highlight a program by the Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and the Department of Homeland Security, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO), and supported by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Agreement State Radiation Control Programs to voluntarily enhance the security of licensed facilities that use high-risk radiological material.

Global Threat Reduction Initiative (GTRI) Domestic Threat Reduction Program

The objective of the GTRI domestic security program is to further increase the protection of radiological sources and nuclear material located at public and commercial facilities in the United States. GTRI support is provided at no cost and implemented on a voluntary basis. GTRI-funded services include:

- Security Training: GTRI conducts on-site training courses in a broad range of security subjects including vulnerability assessments, application of protection and accounting technologies, human reliability, and overall security program development
- Security Assessments: GTRI experts review existing security procedures and suggest voluntary modifications to further enhance security at your site
- Security Upgrades: GTRI provides funding and resources to install security upgrades at your site that will help improve deterrence, control, detection, delay, response, and sustainability

Sources and materials eligible for GTRI-funded voluntary security upgrades include those used in medical, educational, research, and commercial applications.

Under the program, security experts from DOE's national laboratories, led by NNSA headquarters staff, provide security assessments, share observations and make recommendations for enhancing security. When appropriate, DOE/NNSA pays for the installation of agreed upon security enhancements. Typical security enhancements include automated access control, motion sensors, radiation sensors, electronic seals, alarm control and display systems, remote monitoring to off-site response locations, enhanced guard force communications and protection equipment, delay elements, and transportation security enhancements, when appropriate.

Relationship to NRC and Agreement State Regulatory Requirements

While NRC and Agreement State licensees are responsible for the safety and security of licensed sources and meeting current regulatory requirements, these regulatory bodies encourage licensees to work cooperatively with manufacturers, regulators, and other Federal, state and local authorities to look for opportunities to enhance the security of their sources and devices and incorporate best practices. The GTRI staff and contractors have valuable perspective and experience on best practices from visiting multiple licensees and operations. The recommended security enhancements from the security assessments would be consistent with, and supplementary to, the NRC's and Agreement States' Increased Controls requirements; however, this voluntary program does not replace or diminish the licensee's responsibility to comply with the Increased Controls requirements or other regulatory requirements. The NRC or Agreement State regulator will be notified by NNSA or DNDO prior to conducting a security assessment at a licensee facility. In addition, NRC and Agreement States encourage licensees to discuss the recommended voluntary enhancements to existing security and clarify any questions that licensees may have regarding their specific enhancements.

Costs

The GTRI domestic security program services are free. When appropriate, NNSA pays for the installation of agreed upon security enhancements.

Points of Contact

If you have questions please contact:

Richard Correia, NRC, 301-415-7674, richard.correia@nrc.gov

John Zabko, DHS, 202-254-7416, john.zabko@dhs.gov

Craig Johnson, NNSA, 202-586-3755, craig.johnson@nnsa.doe.gov

Cindy Cardwell, OAS, 512-834-6888, cindy.cardwell@dshs.state.tx.us

List of Recently Issued Office of Federal and State Material and Environmental Management Programs Generic Communications			
Date	GC No.	Subject	Addressees
05/13/08	RIS-2008-10	Notice Regarding Forthcoming Federal Firearms Background Checks	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensees, certificate holders, and applicants for a license or certificate of compliance who use armed security personnel as part of their physical protection system and security organization. All Radiation Control Program Directors and State Liaison Officers.
05/12/08	RIS-2008-11	Precautions to Protect Children Who May Come in Contact with Patients Released After Therapeutic Administration of Iodine-131	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission medical-use licensees, master material licensees, Agreement State Radiation Control Program Directors, and State Liaison Officers
05/09/08	RIS-2008-12	Considerations for Extended Interim Storage of Low-level Radioactive Waste by Fuel Cycle and Materials Licensees	All holders of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission fuel cycle and materials licenses. All Radiation Control Program Directors and State Liaison Officers
06/16/08	RIS-2008-13	Status And Plans for Implementation of NRC Regulatory Authority for Certain Naturally Occurring and Accelerator-Produced Radioactive Material	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission materials licensees, Radiation Control Program Directors, State Liaison Officers, and the NRC's Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes
07/18/08	RIS-2008-17	Voluntary Security Enhancements for Self-Contained Irradiators Containing Cesium Chloride Sources	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Materials Licensees Authorized to Possess Self-Contained Irradiators Containing Cesium Chloride (CsCl) ; all Agreement State Radiation Control Program Directors and State Liaison Officers; all members of the Advisory Committee on the Medical Uses of Isotopes.
05/16/08	IN-2008-03	Precautions to Take Before Sharing Sensitive Security-Related Information	All U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensees who are implementing U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Order Imposing Increased Controls (IC Order) or implementing IC requirements by license condition; all Agreement State Radiation Control Program Directors and State Liaison Officers
<p>Note: This list contains the six most recently issued generic communications, issued by the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME). A full listing of all generic communications may be viewed at the NRC public website at the following address: http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/index.html</p>			