

February 18, 2010

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MICHIGAN

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) DRAFT SAFETY REQUIREMENTS "DS379: BASIC SAFETY STANDARDS FOR PROTECTION AGAINST IONIZING RADIATION AND THE SAFETY OF RADIATION SOURCES" (FSME-10- 011)

**Purpose:** To provide the Agreement States an opportunity to comment on the IAEA Draft Safety Requirements "DS379: Basic Safety Standards for Protection Against Ionizing Radiation and the Safety of Radiation Sources" (BSS).

**Background:** The IAEA Draft Safety Requirements DS379 has been revised. Since 2007 more than 40 meetings have taken place. An important outcome from the Technical Meeting in July 2007, which was attended by more than 130 participants from Member States, international organizations and professional societies, was the agreement to a new structure for the BSS based on the exposure situations of the 2007 ICRP recommendations. A further Technical Meeting took place in December 2009 on radon which formed the basis for radon requirements in the document. The objective of the BSS is to establish basic requirements for the protection of people and the environment from the harmful effects of ionizing radiation and for the safety of radiation sources. This draft is a revision of the BSS published in 1996, and once approved, will replace the existing publication.

Comments are requested in relation to:

- 1) Relevance and usefulness: are the stated objectives of the standard appropriate, and are they met by the document?
- 2) Scope and completeness: is the stated scope appropriate and is that scope adequately covered by the document?
- 3) Quality and clarity: do the requirements/guidance in the document represent the current consensus among specialists in the field, and are they expressed clearly and coherently?

**Discussion:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seeking comment on the proposed changes to IAEA Draft Safety Requirements "DS 379: Basic Safety Standards for Protection Against Ionizing Radiation and the Safety of Radiation Sources". Comments from the United States Government, and other Member States and International Organizations will be considered by the IAEA. The draft safety requirements can be found at: <http://www-ns.iaea.org/downloads/standards/drafts/ds379.pdf>. We would appreciate receiving your comments by April 2, 2010. Please send your comments to the contact individual listed below.

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\*This information request has been approved by OMB 3150-0029, expiration 08/31/2010. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection is approximately 8 hours. Send comments regarding the burden estimate to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet e-mail to [infocollects@nrc.gov](mailto:infocollects@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.

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me at 301-415-3340 or the individual named below.

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