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NRC Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Revisions
to Policy Statements on Agreement State Programs

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seeking public comment on proposed revisions to two policy statements about the agency's Agreement State programs. Published in today's *Federal Register*, the changes would incorporate language about security of radioactive materials, and other current NRC policies and practices that are not addressed in the existing policy statements.

Agreement States—of which there are 37—license and regulate the use of radioactive materials in industry, medicine and academics under an agreement with the NRC. Agreement State radioactive materials programs must be adequate to protect public health and safety, and have regulations that are compatible with the NRC's.

The NRC staff worked with the Agreement States to revise two policy statements: "Policy Statement on Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs" and the "Statements of Principles and Policy for the Agreement State Program." Both were originally issued in 1997. Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the NRC and Agreement States have implemented new security requirements for radioactive materials under their mandate to protect public health and safety. The revisions attempt to demonstrate a clear connection between public health and safety and security.

The public may submit comments on the proposed changes until August 19. The policy statements are available on the federal rulemaking website at http://www.regulations.gov under Docket ID NRC-2013-0081.

Comments may be submitted directly on that website; by email to Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov; by fax to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 301-415-1101; or by mail to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff.