

Regulatory Guide Periodic Review

Regulatory Guide Number: 8.21, Revision 1

Title: Health Physics Surveys for Byproduct Material at NRC-Licensed Processing and Manufacturing Plants

Office/division/branch: RES/DSA/RPB
Technical Lead: Steve Schaffer

Recommended Staff Action: Reviewed with issues identified for future consideration

1. What are the known technical or regulatory issues with the current version of the Regulatory Guide (RG)?

RG 8.21 was issued in October 1979 to comply with the regulations in 10 CFR Part 20, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation." The regulations require that each licensee make, or cause to be made, such surveys as may be necessary to comply with the regulations.

The citations to the regulations described in RG 8.21 are not consistent with those listed in the current 10 CFR Part 20. However, the technical information in RG 8.21 about surveys are current with those required in 10 CFR Part 20. Also, there are possible advances in measurement techniques.

2. What is the impact on internal and external stakeholders of not updating the RG for the known issues, in terms of anticipated numbers of licensing and inspection activities over the next several years?

There is no impact on licensing and inspection activities. Additional relevant guidance can be found in NRC/NMSS NUREG-1556 Vol. 12, "Program-Specific Guidance About Possession Licenses for Manufacturing and Distribution."

3. What is an estimate of the level of effort needed to address identified issues in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) and contractor resources?

An estimate of the effort needed to correct the identified issues is between 0.1 FTE and 0.2 FTE.

4. Based on the answers to the questions above, what is the staff action for this guide (Reviewed with no issues identified, Reviewed with issues identified for future consideration, Revise, or Withdraw)?

Reviewed with issues identified for future consideration.

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5. Provide a conceptual plan and timeframe to address the issues identified during the review.

As discussed in Management Directive (MD) 6.6, "Regulatory Guides," the NRC staff reviews RGs periodically to ensure that these guides continue to provide useful guidance. The staff will consider the regulatory citation issues and any other technical information that may need to be updated during the next periodic review of the guide.

NOTE: This review was conducted in October 2012, and reflects the staff's plans as of that date. These plans are tentative and subject to change.