



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 1, 2020

ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES
STATE LIAISON OFFICERS
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INFORMATION AND SEMINAR REGARDING TEMPORARY EXEMPTIONS FROM CERTAIN
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION MATERIALS LICENSEES SUBJECT TO 10
CFR PART 37 REGULATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
(STC-20-037)

Purpose: To provide information about: 1) the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) consideration of temporary exemptions for materials licensees subject to Title 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 37; and 2) a May 5, 2020, public meeting to discuss how NRC licensees can request expedited temporary regulatory relief during the COVID-19 public health emergency through submission of certain exemption requests.

Background: On April 7, 2020, the NRC issued a letter (ADAMS Accession No. ML20094G166) to all materials licensees providing information about regulatory options for obtaining relief from NRC requirements during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Public Health Emergency (PHE). As a follow-up to this information, the NRC intends to hold a public meeting on May 5, 2020, and provide exemption information to materials licensees subject to 10 CFR Part 37, as noted in this letter.

Discussion: On April 30, 2020, the NRC issued a draft letter (ADAMS Accession No. ML20121A222) to materials licensees subject to 10 CFR Part 37 on its planned actions regarding licensee requests for temporary exemptions from certain 10 CFR Part 37 security requirements during the COVID-19 PHE. The letter includes a list of 10 CFR Part 37 requirements for which NRC may consider expedited requests for temporary exemption, and guidance to licensees on the contents of such exemption requests. The objective of the expedited review process is to facilitate the processing of licensee requests for exemption from certain 10 CFR Part 37 security requirements to ensure that the requirements do not unduly limit licensee flexibility in using personnel resources in a manner that most effectively manages the impacts of the COVID-19 PHE to maintain the safe and secure operation of licensed activities. The NRC will consider these requests for relief on a case-by-case basis, and exemption requests that do not provide the contents specified in the letter may require the NRC to request additional information.

The public meeting to discuss how NRC licensees can request expedited temporary regulatory relief will take place on May 5, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. EDT. The public meeting notice on the NRC website (<https://www.nrc.gov/pmns/mtg?do=details&Code=20200506>) includes the latest agenda for the meeting and information to register and participate in the seminar. The NRC staff would like to hear from radioactive material licensees regarding the types of exemptions they may need during the ongoing public health emergency.

If you have any questions with respect to this correspondence, please contact me at George.Smith@nrc.gov, or the individual named below:

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FROM CERTAIN U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION MATERIALS
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*** via e-mail**

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