

July 28, 2011

Mr. William Cira, Associate Director
Information Security Oversight Office
National Archives and Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408-0001

Dear Mr. Cira:

In response to your memorandum entitled "Fundamental Classification Guidance Review," dated January 27, 2011, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is providing a status of its efforts to complete a comprehensive review of its classification guidance. This was done in accordance with Section 1.9 of Executive Order (EO) 13526, "Classified National Security Information" and Title 32 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2001.16 to ensure the guidance reflects current circumstances.

The NRC is planning to retire the following three guides: *CG-NMF-2, National Security Information Concerning Nuclear Materials and Facilities (U)*; *CG-ATM-1, Assessing Nuclear Threat Messages (U)*; and *CG-RDM-1, Information Dealing with the Release and Dispersion of Radioactive Material (U)*. As recommended in the EO, this decision was based on involving the appropriate NRC subject matter (technical) experts in order to obtain the broadest possible range of perspectives. In lieu of the retired three guides, *CG-SS-4, Classification and UCN/UCNI Guide for Safeguards and Security Information (U)* and *CG-RDD-1, Joint DOE/DHS/NRC Classification Guide for Radiological Dispersal Devices and Radiation Exposure Devices (U)* will be used.

We concluded that the remaining NRC classification guides conform to current operational and technical circumstances, and that the dissemination of the guides is appropriate and effective, given the fact that most of them are classified, and therefore, the distribution is very limited. In addition, the remaining guides are joint guides with the Department of Energy, so any cross-reference information between the two agencies has been incorporated into them.

Also as requested, the NRC has not made any original classification decisions over the past 2.5 years. Therefore, no incorporation of the original classification decisions into appropriate security classification guides was required.

The NRC is continuing its classification guidance review to include possible declassification actions and development of new joint classification guidance. As requested in your memorandum referenced above, the NRC will provide an update on its continuing efforts no later than January 31, 2012.

W. Cira

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Should you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact Bernard W. Stapleton, Chief, Information Security Branch at 301-415-2214.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Martin J. Virgilio
Deputy Executive Director for Reactor
and Preparedness Programs
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

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