

Saskatchewan, July 23, 2018

To: Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)

Ref.: **Comments to Draft of REGDOC-3.1.3: “Reporting Requirements for Class II Nuclear Facilities and Users of Prescribed Equipment, Nuclear Substances and Radiation Devices”.**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Below are the comments (**in bold font**) from AM Inspection Ltd. to the draft of this Regulatory Document:

Section 2. “4. All reports filed by the licensee shall contain the name and address of the sender of the report, and the date the report was submitted to the Commission.”

The section does not specify if the name and address of the sender refers to the Licensee or the natural person sending the report. If it refers to the natural person, requesting the address seems to be an information that CNSC does not typically request, and should not be relevant, unless it refers to an electronic (email) address to keep further communication or request additional details of the event.

Section 2, Guidance, 4th paragraph: “A preliminary report or notification that must be submitted immediately may only be provided in person or by telephone to either the duty officer through the emergency telephone number at 613-995-0479 (or toll-free at 1-844-879-0805), or the licensee’s CNSC point of contact, depending on the situation, event or dangerous occurrence. Table A indicates to whom licensees should send their preliminary reports. Note that a licensee should speak to someone; leaving a voicemail or sending an email is not acceptable. Further information on reporting is available on the CNSC website.”

This paragraph appears to establish instructions applicable to all type of reports. However, according to the Table in Appendix A some events are reportable in preliminary report to the Licensee’s Point of Contact in CNSC (we assume this is the Licensing Specialist, since the document does not specify). In these cases, regulating that the preliminary report is only acceptable by phone or in person is not practical, since that person may be in Ottawa or abroad, and should not be forced to be available on a 24/7/365 basis. Allowing email/voicemail communication for these cases is paramount for several reasons: availability of the person receiving the report, written or recorded evidence of having fulfilled the regulatory reporting requirement, and easiness to include all details that need to be reported as per this regulatory document.

Section 3, Guidance, last paragraph on page 5: “Contact information should be provided with a preliminary report or immediate notification along with the names of the persons involved in the situation.”

The draft of this paragraph shall be more elaborated to clarify whose contact information it refers to (the persons involved in the situation, or the person reporting?), as well as what contact information is acceptable (phone, email?)

Section 3.2 “A full report shall contain the following information as far as practicable and applicable: (...) 5. the effects on: (...) c. if applicable, international obligations that have been compromised as a result of the situation or event”

Although the section specifies that each piece of information is included only “as far as practicable and applicable”; I believe it goes beyond a Licensee’s due diligence to expect from every Licensee’s to know all international obligations subscribed by the government in terms of radiation protection, and to assess the degree in which these obligations have or may have been compromised as a result of a situation or event.

Section 3.3 “When a licensee with an action level in their licence becomes aware that an action level has been reached, the licensee shall: (...)

2. within 21 days of the notification date (or, if the licence specifies a different time period, within that time period), file a report with the CNSC that:

a. describes the results of the investigation conducted to establish the cause of reaching the action level

b. describes the steps identified and taken to restore the effectiveness of the radiation protection program

c. identifies any incomplete information and describes how and when the information will be provided to the CNSC

Action level reports shall also include the information provided in section 3.1 and 3.2 if applicable.”

This section appears to mix 2 different types of reportable events that are perfectly broken down in Table A of Appendix A: the situations of actual or potential exposure in excess of legal radiation dose limits (section E12 in the aforementioned Table A), which require a full report within 21 days; and reaching an action level for the purposes of environmental or radiation protection (section E13 in Table A), which only require a preliminary report to the point of contact. It shall be clearly differentiated, since the way it is drafted forces Licensees to do a full investigation and a full report within 21 days for each action level reached. This would impose a tremendous burden on Licensees, it is impractical and unnecessary, it would contradict the License conditions and the actions specified for each action level in the Radiation Protection Program as approved by CNSC. Please bear in mind that the action levels approved are way below the legal radiation dose limits as approved in the RPR. It would also create chaotic situations: for instance, if you include in a full report for a NEW reaching an action level of 3 mSv in the first quarter the

information from section 3.1.4, that would mean that this employee have to stop any work that is likely to add to his/her dose for the rest of the year.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft of this regulatory document.

Best regards,

Roberto Camba Baldomar
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AM Inspection Ltd.