
Accelerator Safety Workshop

Argonne National Laboratory

Progress on Metals Moratorium Initiative
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John Blaikie

Office of Safety, Security and Infrastructure
Environment, Safety and Health Division – SC- 31.1
Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy



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Background

- Since 2000 DOE has been prohibited from releasing scrap metal from radiological areas into general commerce.
- Secretarial Memorandum called for improvements in the clearance process to provide for:
 - Better definition, control and minimization of areas that could contaminate property.
 - Clear and consistent definition and enhanced management of process knowledge used to support clearance of property from radiological control.
 - Independent (e.g., federal) verification of the integrity of site radiological clearance programs.
 - Enhancement of the public input process to better inform the public on radiological clearance programs.



Principles of Operation

- Program offices and sites commit to an active and continuous process of validating radiological postings.
- Sufficient information should be gathered, managed and preserved as process knowledge to support validation of the clearance decision by a third, independent party.
- Site Office personnel are responsible for independent verification and oversight of the integrity of radiological clearance programs.



Principles of Operation

- Sites will use the Annual Site Environmental Report as the primary conduit to report the amount and type of personal property cleared. Site public affairs offices will be the primary contact with members of the public.
- For accelerator facilities, items determined to be indistinguishable from background radiation levels are not impacted by accelerator operations. Material meeting established criteria may be cleared.
- To the extent possible, sites will model their radiological clearance programs according to the processes defined in the MARSAME manual.



Site Reviews

- All NNSA sites have been reviewed
- EM has conducted one site review
- Four SC sites have been reviewed (SLAC, TJNAF, BNL, Fermi); \$19M cost avoidance identified
- Each site has consistently implemented the prohibition with a conservative approach
- Most sites had encumbered metal and equipment that could ultimately be introduced into the reuse/scrap stream



Approach to Resumption of Clearance Operations

- Action Memorandum for the Secretary, requesting delegation of authority to the Under Secretaries to resume radiological clearance operations at sites under their cognizance. Authority would be granted subject to:
 - Commitment by each Under Secretary to promulgate the Principles of Operation as guidance to field sites. **Acceptance of these principles is a condition to resume radiological clearance operations.**
 - Complete Environmental Assessment/FONSI to document the shift in policy.
 - **Complete site specific reviews of Materials Release Program.**



Process Improvement & Opportunity

Institute an investment recovery process with emphasis on improved operations:

- Processing obsolete, scrap, surplus, or waste material in a manner that maximizes the return on investment (ROI) while minimizing costs and liabilities.
- Coordinate management of surplus materials across all DOE.
- Integrate site operations to include:
 - Environmental requirements for disposition actions,
 - Improve communications and save resources,
 - Recycle and reuse options to address GHG initiatives (EO 13514).
- Leverage high value items.
- Engage private sector capabilities.
- Use NNSA interfaces with DoD and DHS.



Panel Discussion Topics

- Incorporation of Principles of Operation into DOE O 458.1
- Independent V&V of materials release process
- Release protocol as developed at SLAC and described in ANSI Standard
- Authorized Limit

