

NRC NEWS

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NRC UPDATES ITS EXPORT LICENSING REGULATIONS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has made minor changes to update its regulations for licensing the export of nuclear equipment and materials to reflect United States nuclear non-proliferation policies. These changes bring NRC regulations into conformance with international guidelines for export control and with obligations under U.S. agreements for cooperation.

Among other things, the rule:

- Expands the requirement for NRC licensees to notify the agency before a shipment is made of any foreign-origin uranium. This requirement had only applied to such material that originated in Canada or Australia.
- Allows U.S. companies to export under a general license, rather than a specific license, small quantities of uranium in the form of uranium hexaflouride left in cylinders being returned to suppliers in European countries.
- Adds californium-253 and -254 and neptunium-235 to the list of byproduct materials subject to NRC's export licensing requirements.
- Requires annual reporting for americium and neptunium that is exported under a general license to provide tracking of these byproduct materials.
- Adds to NRC's export controls under a specific license: facilities for the production of special nuclear material using accelerator-driven subcritical assembly systems; plants for plutonium conversion; and non-U.S. nuclear equipment and components for small research reactors.
- Adds Sudan to the list of embargoed destinations for which a U.S. trade embargo is in effect.
- Includes definitions of certain terms and editorial revisions .

The revised regulation will become effective 30 days after its publication in a forthcoming edition of the <u>Federal Register</u>.