

be required of all grantees on a quarterly basis. The grantee will cause said program to be completed within the total sums available to it, including the grant, in accordance with the scope of work and any necessary modifications thereof prepared by grantee and approved by the Agency. A final project performance report will be required with the final Financial Status Report. The final report may serve as the last quarterly report. The final report must provide complete information regarding the jobs created and saved as a result of the grant. Grantees shall constantly monitor performance to ensure that time schedules are being met, projected work by time periods is being accomplished, and other performance objectives are being achieved. Grantees are to submit an original of each report to the Agency. The project performance reports shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) A comparison of actual accomplishments to the objectives established for that period;

(2) Problems, delays, or adverse conditions, if any, which have affected or will affect attainment of overall project objectives, prevent meeting time schedules or objectives, or preclude the attainment of particular project work elements during established time periods. This disclosure shall be accompanied by a statement of the action taken or planned to resolve the situation; and

(3) Objectives and timetable established for the next reporting period.

(b) Within 1 year after the conclusion of the project, the grantee will provide a project evaluation report based on criteria developed in accordance with §§ 4284.621(c) and 4284.638(a)(2)(v).

(c) The Agency may also require grantees to prepare a report suitable for public distribution describing the accomplishments made through the use of the grant and, in the case where the grant funded the development or application of a "best practice," to describe that "best practice."

(d) The grantee will provide for Financial Management Systems which will include:

(1) Accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial result of each grant.

(2) Records which identify adequately the source and application of funds for grant-supporting activities, together with documentation to support the records. Those records shall contain information pertaining to grant awards and authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, liabilities, outlays, and income.

(3) Effective control over and accountability for all funds. Grantee shall adequately safeguard all such assets and shall assure that funds are used solely for authorized purposes.

(e) The grantee will retain financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and all other records pertinent to the grant for a period of at least 3 years after grant closing except that the records shall be retained beyond the 3-year period if audit findings have not been resolved or if directed by the United States. Microfilm copies may be substituted in lieu of original records. The Agency and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the grantee which are pertinent to the specific grant program for the purpose of making audit, examination, excerpts, and transcripts.

#### § 4284.657 Audit requirements.

Grantees must provide an annual audit in accordance with 7 CFR part 3052. The audit requirements apply to the years in which grant funds are received and years in which work is accomplished that will be paid for with grant funds.

#### §§ 4284.658–4284.666 [Reserved]

#### § 4284.667 Grant servicing.

Grants will be serviced in accordance with part 1951, subparts E and O, of this title. Grantees will permit periodic inspection of the program operations by a representative of the Agency. All non-confidential information resulting from the Grantee's activities shall be made available to the general public on an equal basis.

#### § 4284.668 Programmatic changes.

The Grantee shall obtain prior approval for any change to the scope or objectives of the approved project. Failure to obtain prior approval of changes to the scope of work or budget may result in suspension, termination, and recovery of grant funds.

#### §§ 4284.669–4284.683 [Reserved]

#### § 4284.684 Exception authority.

The Administrator may, in individual cases, grant an exception to any requirement or provision of this subpart provided the Administrator determines that application of the requirement or provision would adversely affect USDA's interest.

#### §§ 4284.685–4284.698 [Reserved]

#### § 4284.699 Member delegate clause.

No member of Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this grant or any benefit that may arise therefrom; but this provision shall not be construed to bar as a contractor under the grant a publicly held corporation whose ownership might include a member of Congress.

#### § 4284.700 OMB control number.

The reporting and recordkeeping requirements contained in this regulation have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under the provisions of 44 U.S.C. chapter 35 and have been assigned OMB control number 0570–0024 in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Dated: December 13, 1999.

**Jill Long Thompson,**

*Under Secretary, Rural Development.*

[FR Doc. 99–33203 Filed 12–22–99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

#### 9 CFR Parts 317 and 381

[Docket No. 99–016F]

#### Scale Requirements for Accurate Weights, Repairs, Adjustments, and Replacement After Inspection

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Affirmation of effective date for direct final rule.

**SUMMARY:** On October 1, 1999, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) published a direct final rule, "Scale Requirements for Accurate Weights, Repairs, Adjustments, and Replacement After Inspection." This direct final rule notified the public of FSIS's intention to amend the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations to update references to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44, "Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices." The 1999 edition of NIST Handbook 44 was published in November 1998 and is the most current edition of the handbook. FSIS is amending the provisions in its regulations that reference NIST Handbook 44 to reflect this most recent edition. Because FSIS did not receive

any adverse comments, or expressions of intent to submit adverse comments, within the scope of the rulemaking, FSIS is affirming the November 30, 1999 effective date for this direct final rule.

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** November 30, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Daniel L. Engeljohn, Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Office of Policy, Program Development, and Evaluation, Food Safety and Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720-5627.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

On October 1, 1999, FSIS published a direct final rule, "Scale Requirements for Accurate Weights, Repairs, Adjustments, and Replacement After Inspection" (64 FR 53186). This direct final rule notified the public of FSIS's intention to amend the Federal meat and poultry products inspection regulations to update references to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44, "Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices." The 1999 edition of NIST Handbook 44 was published in November 1998 and is the most current edition of the handbook. FSIS is amending the provisions in its regulations that reference NIST Handbook 44 to reflect this most recent edition.

After publication of the direct final rule, the American Meat Institute (AMI), a national trade association representing packers and processors of meat and poultry products, contacted FSIS to express a minor concern associated with the rulemaking. AMI noted that Section 2.24 Automatic Weighing Systems of the 1999 edition of NIST Handbook 44 is a tentative code, has only a trial or experimental status, and is not intended to be enforced by weights and measures officials. AMI expressed concern that FSIS inspection program employees would not interpret Section 2.24 as tentative and would enforce the requirements of Section 2.24 against existing equipment in meat and poultry plants before it is adopted as a permanent code. AMI requested that, prior to the effective date of the rule, FSIS issue some kind of notification to its inspection program personnel explaining that Section 2.24 is a tentative code and is not enforceable against existing equipment.

The direct final rule updates a document, NIST Handbook 44, that has previously been approved for incorporation by reference in the Code

of Federal Regulations. The current FSIS regulations reference the 1994 edition of NIST Handbook 44, published in November 1993. The 1994 edition of the handbook does not include Section 2.24 Automatic Weighing Systems. In the 1999 edition of Handbook 44, it is clearly stated that Section 2.24 has only a trial or experimental status, and that it is not intended to be enforced by weights and measures officials. However, Section 2.24 is intended to be used by the National Type Evaluation Program for type evaluation of automatic weighing systems, which permits these devices to be tested to ensure conformance with a nationally accepted standard.

When FSIS issues new regulations, it provides the new or revised regulations to inspection program employees. The Agency also provides inspection program employees with the necessary implementing instructions. Therefore, FSIS will issue notification to the field employees explaining that Section 2.24 Automatic Weighing Systems is a tentative code, and that it is not to be enforced until it is upgraded to become a permanent code.

Because FSIS did not receive any adverse comments or intent to submit adverse comments in response to the direct final rule, the effective date remains as November 30, 1999.

Done at Washington, DC, on: December 14, 1999.

**Thomas J. Billy,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 99-33205 Filed 12-22-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P**

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**10 CFR Parts 21, 50, and 54**

**RIN 3150-AG12**

**Use of Alternative Source Terms at Operating Reactors**

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is amending its regulations to allow holders of operating licenses for nuclear power plants to voluntarily replace the traditional source term used in design basis accident analyses with alternative source terms. This action will allow interested licensees to pursue cost beneficial licensing actions to reduce unnecessary regulatory burden without compromising the margin of safety of

the facility. The NRC is announcing the availability of a draft regulatory guide and a draft Standard Review Plan section on this subject for public comment. The NRC is also amending its regulations to revise certain sections to conform with the final rule published on December 11, 1996, concerning reactor site criteria.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 24, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Stephen F. LaVie, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; telephone: (301) 415-1081; or by Internet electronic mail to sfl@nrc.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

- I. Background
- II. Analysis of Public Comments
- III. Section-by-Section Analysis
- IV. Draft Regulatory Guide; Issuance, Availability
- V. Draft Standard Review Plan Section; Issuance, Availability
- VI. Referenced Documents
- VII. Finding of No Significant Environmental Impact; Availability
- VIII. Paperwork Reduction Act Statement
- IX. Regulatory Analysis
- X. Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification
- XI. Backfit Analysis
- XII. Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act
- XIII. National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act

**I. Background**

A holder of an operating license (i.e., the licensee) for a light-water power reactor is required by regulations issued by the NRC (or its predecessor, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, (AEC)) to submit a safety analysis report (or, for early reactors, a hazard summary report) that contains assessments of the radiological consequences of potential accidents and an evaluation of the proposed facility site. The NRC uses this information in its evaluation of the suitability of the reactor design and the proposed site as required by its regulations contained in 10 CFR Parts 50 and 100. Section 100.11, which was adopted by the AEC in 1962 (27 FR 3509; April 12, 1962), requires an applicant to assume (1) a fission product release from the reactor core, (2) the expected containment leak rate, and (3) the site meteorological conditions to establish an exclusion area and a low population zone. This fission product release is based on a major accident that would result in substantial release of appreciable quantities of fission products from the core to the containment atmosphere. A note to § 100.11 states that Technical Information Document (TID) 14844, "Calculation of Distance Factors for