For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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Policy Coordinator, Office of the Secretary.

NRC–2018–0190

Protective Order Templates for Hearings on Conformance With the Acceptance Criteria in Combined Licenses

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Final protective order templates.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is announcing the availability of final protective order templates to be used in hearings associated with closure of inspections, tests, analyses, and acceptance criteria (ITAAC). The templates have the purpose of facilitating quick development of case-specific protective orders to support the accelerated ITAAC hearing schedule. Participants in ITAAC hearings may, but are not required to, use the templates as the basis for proposed protective orders.

DATES: The final templates are available on February 12, 2019.

ADDRESS: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2018–0190 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly-available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- Federal Rulemaking Website: Go to http://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC–2018–0190. Address questions about NRC Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Krupskaya Castellon; telephone: 301–287–9221; email: Krupskaya.Castellon@nrc.gov. For other questions, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.

- NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adsam.html. To begin the search, select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. For the convenience of the reader, instructions about obtaining materials referenced in this document are provided in the “Availability of Documents” section.

- NRC’s PDR: You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1–F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On July 1, 2016 (81 FR 43266), the NRC published final procedures for hearings on conformance with the acceptance criteria in combined licenses (COLs) issued under part 52 of title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) (ITAAC Hearing Procedures). The acceptance criteria are part of the ITAAC included in the COL. In accordance with 10 CFR 52.103(g), the NRC must find that the acceptance criteria are met before facility operation may begin. Section 189a.(1)(B) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (AEA), provides members of the public an opportunity to request a hearing on the facility’s compliance with the acceptance criteria. The ITAAC Hearing Procedures describe the requirements for such hearing requests and the procedures to be used throughout the hearing process. The procedures for a particular ITAAC proceeding will be imposed by case-specific orders, and the ITAAC Hearing Procedures reference templates to be used for such orders.

Some NRC proceedings involve sensitive information. For ITAAC proceedings in particular, the NRC determined that a potential party may deem it necessary to obtain access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information (SUNSI) or Safeguards Information (SGI) for the purpose of meeting Commission requirements for intervention. Therefore, the ITAAC Hearing Procedures include templates for orders governing requests for access to SUNSI and SGI. If a hearing participant qualifies for access to sensitive information, then a protective order and non-disclosure declaration would be needed to ensure that the information is protected appropriately.

The presiding officer for a proceeding would issue the protective order, and recipients of the sensitive information would sign a non-disclosure declaration agreeing to protect the information in accordance with the protective order. Typically, the presiding officer issues a protective order in response to a motion...
templates have the following ITAAC-proceedings. The final SUNSI and SGI content is not specific to ITAAC hearings, the vast majority of the hearings, one for SUNSI (ADAMS protective order templates for ITAAC II. Discussion
for proposed protective orders. The final SUNSI and SGI template.

The final SGI template has two additional ITAAC-specific provisions:
• Consistent with the ITAAC Hearing Procedures, the final template provides that SGI must be filed by overnight mail. Filings with SGI will not be made on the E-Filing system because the E-Filing system does not comply with SGI security requirements. This provision does not appear in the SUNSI template because SUNSI filings will be made through the E-Filing system.
• The final template quotes the ITAAC Hearing Procedures as stating that the NRC may delay its actions in completing the hearing or making the 10 CFR 52.103(g) finding because of delays from background checks for persons seeking access to SGI.

Both templates are based on current requirements and policies, and would, if appropriate, be updated as those requirements and policies change. For example, NRC policies will change in response to the National Archives and Records Administration’s final rule, “Controlled Unclassified Information.” (81 FR 63324; September 14, 2016) (CUI Rule). The CUI Rule establishes government-wide requirements for protecting sensitive unclassified information. The CUI Rule applies both to the Federal government and to non-Federal entities receiving CUI from the Federal government. The NRC has not yet implemented the CUI Rule and does not expect to achieve implementation before the ITAAC hearings for Vogtle Units 3 and 4. But any future updating of the templates for subsequent ITAAC proceedings would reflect consideration of the CUI Rule and associated guidance.

A. Final SUNSI Protective Order Template

The NRC uses the term SUNSI to refer to a broad spectrum of sensitive information that is neither classified nor SGI. While there are many types of SUNSI, the final SUNSI protective order template is directed at protection of proprietary and security-related information, as discussed in SECY-15–0010 (January 20, 2015) (ADAMS Accession No. ML051430228). The NRC staff focused on these types of SUNSI because of the NRC’s experience with hearings involving reactors and its knowledge of the matters subject to ITAAC. If an ITAAC hearing involves another type of SUNSI with different protection requirements, the template can be adjusted accordingly.

In developing the final SUNSI template, the NRC staff considered protective orders for proprietary and security-related information issued after 2006. The NRC staff also considered guidance in NRC Regulatory Issue Summary (RIS) 2005–26, “Control of Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information Related to Nuclear Power Reactors” (ADAMS Accession No. ML051430228), dated November 7, 2005. RIS 2005–26 is specifically directed at protection of security-related information for reactors and states that such information is protected in much the same way as commercial or financial information.

Finally, the NRC staff considered the CUI Rule. Although the CUI Rule has not yet been implemented at the NRC, many CUI requirements are consistent with the existing protective provisions for SUNSI that provided the basis for the final template. By aligning the provisions and terminology in the SUNSI template with the corresponding elements of the CUI Rule, the NRC staff hopes to facilitate any future update of the template to comply with the CUI Rule. The introductory discussion in the template identifies those CUI provisions that were excluded because they differ from, or go beyond, existing protective provisions for proprietary and security-related SUNSI for external stakeholders.

B. Final SGI Protective Order Template

Safeguards Information is a special category of sensitive unclassified information defined in 10 CFR 73.2 and protected from unauthorized disclosure under AEA Section 147. Although SGI is unclassified information, it is handled and protected more like classified National Security Information than like other sensitive unclassified information (e.g., privacy and proprietary information). Requirements for access to SGI and requirements for SGI handling, storage, and processing are in 10 CFR part 73.

The SGI protective order template does not rely on prior SGI protective orders because they predate significant changes to the NRC’s regulations on SGI and adjudicatory filings. Instead, the NRC staff combined general provisions from the SUNSI template with the SGI protection requirements in 10 CFR part 73 and the adjudicatory filing requirements in 10 CFR part 132. Also, while the NRC staff considered the CUI Rule when developing the SGI template,
the template does not reflect any specific CUI provisions. The NRC has not yet implemented the CUI Rule, and in accordance with 32 CFR 2002.4(r), most CUI requirements do not apply to SGI because the authorizing law and regulations for SGI provide specific handling controls.

### III. Availability of Documents

The documents identified in the following table are available to interested persons through one or more of the following methods, as indicated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>ADAMS Accession No.</th>
<th>Federal Register citation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Template for Protective Orders Governing the Disclosure and Use of Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information (SUNSI) in Hearings Related to Conformance with Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC).</td>
<td>ML19036A727</td>
<td>84 FR 50362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Template for Protective Orders Governing the Disclosure and Use of Safeguards Information (SGI) in Hearings Related to Conformance with Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria (ITAAC).</td>
<td>ML19036A718</td>
<td>84 FR 50362</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRC Staff Responses to Public Comments on Draft Protective Order Templates for ITAAC Hearings</td>
<td>ML19036A732</td>
<td>84 FR 44925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment Submission from Southern Nuclear Operating Company, submitted on October 19, 2018</td>
<td>ML18298A267</td>
<td>83 FR 44925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective Order Templates for Hearings on Conformance with the Acceptance Criteria in Combined Licenses, published on September 4, 2018</td>
<td>ML19036A732</td>
<td>84 FR 44925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Procedures for Conducting Hearings on Conformance With the Acceptance Criteria in Combined Licenses, published on July 1, 2016</td>
<td>ML14343A474</td>
<td>81 FR 43266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Procedures for Conclusions of Hearings on Conformance With the Acceptance Criteria in Combined Licenses</td>
<td>ML19036A732</td>
<td>84 FR 44925</td>
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The RRB invites comments on the proposed collections of information to determine (1) the practical utility of the collections; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden of the collections; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information that is the subject of collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of collections on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments to the RRB or OIRA must contain the OMB control number of the ICR. For proper consideration of your comments, it is best if the RRB and OIRA receive them within 30 days of the publication date.

**Title and purpose of information collection:** Application for Survivor Death Benefits; OMB 3220–0031.

Under Section 6 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), lump-sum death benefits are payable to surviving widow(er)s, children, and certain other dependents. Lump-sum death benefits are payable after the death of a railroad employee only if there are no qualified survivors of the employee immediately eligible for annuities. With the exception of the residual death benefit, eligibility for survivor benefits depends on whether the deceased employee was “insured” under the RRA at the time of death. If the deceased employee was not insured, jurisdiction of any survivor benefits and annuities due but unpaid at death under the Railroad Retirement Act. Benefits are paid to designated...