November 20, 2007

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MICHIGAN, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON DRAFT REVISION TO FSME PROCEDURE SA-600, “TRAINING FOR AGREEMENT STATE PERSONNEL” (FSME-07-106)

Purpose: To provide the Agreement States with the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions to the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs (FSME) Procedure SA-600, “Training for Agreement State Personnel.”

Contents: Redline/strikeout copy of FSME Procedure SA-600

Background: This procedure describes the process for Agreement State personnel to participate in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) technical training program. The procedure is being revised to reflect the recent change in NRC policy for funding of Agreement State attendance at NRC technical training courses. The change in policy was provided in FSME-07-091: “Change in Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Policy On Funding For Training And Associated Travel For Agreement State Staff.”

NRC Point of Contact:

Please provide your written comments on the draft revision to FSME Procedure SA-600 to the point of contact below. We would appreciate receiving your comments within 20 days from the date of this letter.*

POINT OF CONTACT: Anthony Kirkwood INTERNET: ASK@NRC.GOV
TELEPHONE: (301) 415-6140 FAX: (301) 415-3502

/RA/
Janet R. Schlueter, Director
Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure:
Redline/Strikeout Copy of FSME Procedure SA-600

* This information request has been approved by OMB 31 50-0029, expiration 08/31/2010. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection is approximately 8 hours. Send comments regarding the burden estimate to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet e-mail to infocollects@nrc.gov, and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-1 0202 (3150-0029), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a means used to impose an information collection does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, the information collection.
I. INTRODUCTION

This procedure describes the process to be used by the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, Division of Material Safety and State Agreements (FSME/DMSSA) staff for handling the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) sponsored training of Agreement State (AS) personnel.

II. OBJECTIVE

To provide guidance to FSME staff regarding the timely development and issuance of the annual training schedule, the proper handling of applications and travel authorizations and vouchers, coordination with the Technical Training Division (TTD) of the Office of Human Resources (HR), and after-course notification of student performance.

III. BACKGROUND

In 1995, the former Office of State and Tribal Programs (STP) training program was merged with the training program conducted by TTD. Since that time, STP, now FSME/DMSSA, staff have cooperated with the TTD in the selection of course contractors, the development of course content, the selection of candidates, the critique of contractor performance, and the performance of Agreement State personnel. The Commission discontinued the funding of Agreement State staff training effective in 1997. In September 2007, the Commission approved the resumption in FY 2008 of fully funding the training and associated travel costs for Agreement State staff to attend NRC-sponsored training. The resumption of full funding is intended to help States enhance their programs’ performance and foster national consistency among State and NRC inspectors and license reviewers.

IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FSME/DMSSA

A. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator is responsible for the development and
issuance of the annual training schedule. The training schedule will be posted to
FSME external website.

B. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator is responsible for the receipt and
retention of applications from Agreement States, maintaining folders for each
course, the selection of candidates, and the notification of the selected candidates
to the Agreement State Program Director, the TTD course coordinator, and the
secretarial staff responsible for preparing travel authorizations and processing
travel vouchers. The training coordinator also keeps a final log of all students attending each course. This information will be used to determine how many Agreement State students NRC trains in each particular course for a particular fiscal year.

C. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator is responsible for receiving course
applications and for notifying the Agreement State Program Directors regarding
the results of each attendee’s performance upon completion of the course.

D. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will be responsible for updating the
FSME home page when (training courses that did not have dates) have been
scheduled or changed. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will send out a
notice on FSME announcements.

HR

A. The TTD is responsible for contracting, scheduling, and conducting the materials
training program used by NRC and Agreement State staff. The respective roles
and specific activities will be documented in a working agreement between HR
and FSME/DMSSA.

Agreement States

A. Agreement States and Agreement State staff are responsible for timely submittal
of the training application form(s), attending courses once they are selected, and
timely filing of the travel voucher upon completion of training (within two
weeks).

B. Each Agreement State is responsible for designating a training coordinator for
their respective State to interface. The State training coordinator is responsible
for coordination within the State and timely communications with the
FSME/DMSSA training coordinator.
V. GUIDANCE

A. FSME/DMSSA will issue a list of courses, annually, that are part of the training offered for Agreement State personnel to be qualified to implement a materials licensing or inspection program. The issuance will include information on the tuition cost for each course and an a training application form. that includes information on whether the State will be paying the tuition or intends to attend on a space available basis. The Agreement State must prioritize their candidates for each course that they are submitting more than one candidate. The individual State prioritization should be based on the critical nature of the training to the program. If, at a later date, the Agreement State submits additional candidates, they should update their priority list for the courses involved. State staff may apply at any time, but applications received after eight weeks before the start date of a course may not be considered for that course, if the selection process has already been completed. Late applications will be placed in the appropriate order for a standby list in the event that someone cancels from the course. Agreement States should immediately notify the FSME/DMSSA training coordinator when a candidate with a pending application is no longer available to attend a specific training course.

B. When applications are received by FSME/MSSA, the secretarial staff will give them to the FSME/MSSA training coordinator. An e-mail will be sent by the training coordinator to TTD as applications are received. Each application will be entered into the Register by TTD. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will compile a list of candidates for each course. At approximately eight weeks prior to the course start date, the TTD will consult with the FSME/DMSSA training coordinator and make a decision, based on both NRC and AS applications, whether a course will be held.

C. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will be in regular contact with the TTD course coordinator so that the distribution of space in the class will be equitable for NRC and the paying Agreement State students. When there are more NRC and paying Agreement State students than the class can accommodate, the Agreement State students will be selected based on the criteria in paragraph D below on a first come first in basis. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will send the names of the paying AS students to the TTD registrar so that they will be logged in and a place reserved in the course for them.

D. The FSME training coordinator will also send an e-mail with names of space available students. At approximately eight weeks the training coordinator will determine if any space available students will be able to attend.
Agreement State candidates should have education and training equivalent to an undergraduate degree with a major in science, and employment by a State agency that has been designated to conduct the State’s regulatory program for radiation control or provide a support role to the radiation control program. By signing the application form, the program director is stating that the employee meets this criterion and should be successful in the course.

The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will select the AS candidates based on the following priorities:

1. **Applicants that have indicated that their State will pay the tuition will be selected first.** First Priority: Each State will have an opportunity to enroll one person, depending on qualifications, in a subject course before a second person from another State is considered. In a given year, the number of positions in the course for a given subject area may not be able to accommodate a person from each Agreement State. Therefore, the selection for these courses would be made based on the program needs as reflected in the prioritization list and the reason for the training (first priority because the program does not have this expertise at this time and the program has licensees in this category).

2. **Second Priority: A second person from a State will be based on a pre-determination that the particular training need for that individual is critical for the State to carry out its program.** The criteria would be: the State is on heightened oversight for staffing and training with identified training deficiencies in accordance with a documented training/qualification plan; the State has submitted a letter of intent and they have identified the training needs for them to qualify for an Agreement through a documented training/qualification plan; and other significant State training deficiencies that have been submitted, evaluated and approved in advance of submitting the training application. Applicants that are attending on a space available basis will be selected second. The priority for selecting space available candidates will generally be handled on a “first come first serve” basis with consideration of evenly distributing such slots in cases where multiple applicants are submitted by one State, or when special needs are known.

3. **Third Priority: States with significant staff turnover will be considered for additional positions in training courses.** This criterion might be qualitative in that a loss of one staff member may not be significant for one State (a large State); however, for a small State this could be a fifty percent staff loss. In addition, the large State could develop a backlog in training needs
based on strictly a percentage approach; therefore, the larger States would need to be considered for additional positions to maintain a sufficient number of trained staff. Applicants traveling solely or in part at NRC expense will be selected last.

4. Fourth Priority: The staff that are expanding their knowledge beyond their current responsibilities (cross-training) and refresher training would be considered in this group.

E. The FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will prepare a final acceptance letter to the States. The letter will contain the list of students and a travel information form. The travel information form needs to be returned to NRC within a week to allow timely processing of the travel authorization. Information on payment for courses with tuition:

F. Upon completion of a course, TTD will send FSME/DMSSA a list of the actual students that attended the course.

G. The training coordinator will send a reminder to all list of paying students. Agreement State attendees should submit their travel vouchers to the FSME travel clerk, within two weeks of course completion. The instructions and forms are included in SA-500, Invitational Travel. to the Fee Branch after the class has ended. The training coordinator, when notified by OCFO through their accounting report, will follow-up on any outstanding State payments that are overdue by more than 30 days.

H. Upon receipt of the course grades from TTD, the FSME/DMSSA training coordinator will prepare a letter to the appropriate AS radiation control program directors informing them of the performance of their staff. As appropriate, a course certificate or notice regarding AS personnel who did not pass the final examination will be attached to the letter.

VI. APPENDICES

Appendix A - Sample All Agreement States Letter
Attachment 1- Annual Training Course Schedule
Attachment 2- Sample Form- Application For Training Course/Workshop

Appendix B - Sample All Agreement States Letter- Course Acceptance
Attachment 1- List of Course Participants
Attachment 2- Instructions to Course Participants
Appendix C - Sample After-Course Transmittal Letters to RCP Director
APPENDIX A

Sample All Agreement States Letter

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MICHIGAN, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA

TRAINING COURSE LIST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 (FSME-08- )

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has updated the list of courses for Fiscal Year 2008 that directly relate to the Agreement State programs (Enclosure 1). The list includes the tuition costs for those courses being given through December 30, 2007.

The NRC has approved a change in policy and will begin funding, about January 1, 2008, Agreement State staff training and associated travel to attend the current courses offered through the NRC training program for materials licensing and inspection staff. The restoration of this funding will enhance the national consistency in the implementation of the materials licensing and inspection programs by NRC and the Agreement States. The States will still need to provide certain training to their staff not covered by NRC’s current training program (5-week health physics, radiological emergency response, x-ray courses, mammography, etc.).

We have also enclosed the standard application form (Enclosure 2). We added a new line on the application for identifying if you are a U.S. citizen. Please make sure you check the box to let us know. This is very important due to the security at some of the training facilities. Please complete the application form for each person attending a course and submit it to the Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs, Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements), ATTN: Brenda Usilton. Applications may be submitted at any time; however, applications should be received by FSME/DMSSA at a minimum of at least eight (8) weeks prior to the beginning of the course. If you have more than one application from your State you will need to prioritize them. It is not guaranteed that all students from one State will get into any one given course. We are working out a procedure and process for processing the training applications. Until the process is developed we will be evaluating the training based on need (i.e., becoming an Agreement State, IMPEP qualifications, etc). Applications received after the eight week deadline will not be considered under the criteria for processing unless there is a cancellation by one of the students selected.

The complete list of all technical training courses can be viewed on the FSME home page under Technical Training. If there is a “TBD” listed beside a course that means no date has been established. As dates for these courses are established, we will post them under the “What’s New” area on our home page. Other changes to the course schedule will also be noted on the “What’s New” area of the home page. Changes to technical training courses will also be made on the individual course descriptions and schedules.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me or the individual named below.

POINT OF CONTACT: Brenda G. Usilton      INTERNET: BGU@NRC.GOV
Enclosures:  
As stated
LIST OF NRC SPONSORED TRAINING COURSE SESSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<th>Cost/</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>G-109</td>
<td>Licensing Procedures</td>
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<td>Carson City, NV^</td>
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<td>9/15-19/08</td>
<td>Chattanooga, TN</td>
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<td>5/19-23/08</td>
<td>Chattanooga, TN</td>
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<td>09/15-19/08</td>
<td>Bethesda, MD</td>
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<td>Brachytherapy &amp; Gamma Knife</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
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<td>01/08-11/08</td>
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^ NOTE - host organization has priority for registering students

* NOTE - course requires a computer lab with at least 12 computer work stations

TBD - To Be Determined - New contract to be awarded or dates/location not yet established.

NOTE 1 - Due to NRC budget cuts, this course is currently not funded for FY08.

Enclosure 1
Priority __________

APPLICATION FOR TRAINING COURSE/WORKSHOP
(Please Type)

Date: __________

A. To be completed by Applicant

1. Title of Course/Workshop:_____________________________ Dates:_______________

2. Name of Applicant:_________________________________________________________

3. U.S. Citizen:   Yes _______   No________

4. E-Mail Address:________________________________________________________________

5. Business Address:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Business Telephone No:______________________________________________________

Business FAX Telephone No.:  _________________________________________________

6. Applicant's Current Title:______________________________________________________

Description of current duties:______________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

7. List any previous training in health physics.

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

B. To be completed by the State Radiation Control Program Director

1. Please provide a brief statement indicating why you want this individual to attend this course.

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

2. Please prioritize the applications if you have more than one being submitted.
Signature of Radiation Control Program Director

Agency/Management Official (if applicable; see B.2.)

The completed application should be sent to:

Brenda Usilton
Mail Stop T-8E24
Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

or FAXED to DMSSA/FSME: 301-415-3502
or E-mail to BGU@NRC.GOV
APPENDIX B

SAMPLE ALL AGREEMENT STATES LETTER- COURSE ACCEPTANCE

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MICHIGAN, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA

ACCEPTANCE TO THE TRAINING (H- ) FSME-07-

Enclosure 1 is the list of students from the States selected to attend the September 25-28, 2007, Training (H- ). Please provide the list of students and the instructions (Enclosure 2) to each individual from your program who is on the list. Enclosed for your information are directions to the training location (enclosure 3) and a tentative schedule for the course (Enclosure 4). Students attending this course should make their travel arrangements immediately and then submit the travel information needed for NRC to issue their travel authorization. (See invitational travel information in AD-500 at: http://nrc-stp.ornl.gov/procedures/ad500.pdf)

To assist us and other States, and to help ensure that States with candidates on waiting lists will have an opportunity to fill vacated slots that may open up after our course acceptance letters have been sent to you, we ask that you inform us of any cancellations 30 days prior to the course starting date or as soon as you are aware that you cannot attend.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me or the individual named below.

POINT OF CONTACT: Brenda G. Usilton
TELEPHONE: 301-415-2348
INTERNET: BGU@NRC.GOV
FAX: 301-415-3502

Janet R. Schlueter, Director
Division of Materials Safety and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials and
Environmental Management Programs

Enclosures:
As stated

Distribution: DMSSA RF JRicci, TTD
JPatterson TTD
Randy Erickson, Region IV

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<th>FSME/DMSSA</th>
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<td>JRSchlueter</td>
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ML072480084
OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Enclosure 1
LIST OF COURSE PARTICIPANTS

INSTRUCTIONS TO COURSE COORDINATOR:
1. Add Course Title and Dates: ______________________________________________________
2. List students in alphabetical order or provide list to Lead Secretary for Training to complete.
3. List only those States with participants. DELETE ALL OTHERS NOT NEEDED.

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| Office of Radiation Control  
Alabama Department of Public Health  
201 Monroe Street, P.O. Box 303017  
Montgomery, AL 36130-3017 | |
| ARKANSAS    | 1 2 3          |
| Division of Rad Control & Emergency Mgmt  
Department of Health  
4815 West Markham Street, Slot 30  
Little Rock, AR 72205-3867 | |
| ARIZONA     | 1 2 3          |
| Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency  
4814 South 40th Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85040 | |
| CALIFORNIA  | 1 2 3          |
| Radiologic Health Branch  
Division of Food, Drug & Radiation Safety  
California Department of Health Services  
P.O. Box 942732  
Sacramento, CA 94234-7320 | |
| COLORADO    | 1 2 3          |
| Laboratory & Radiation Services Division  
Department of Public Health & Environment  
8100 Lowry Boulevard  
Denver, CO 80220-6928 | |
| FLORIDA     | 1 2 3          |
| Bureau of Radiation Control  
Department of Health  
4052 Bald Cypress Way, BIN C21  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1741 | |
| GEORGIA     | 1 2 3          |
| Radioactive Materials Program  
Department of Natural Resources  
4244 International Parkway, Suite 114  
Atlanta, GA 30354 | |
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<tr>
<td>Iowa Department of Public Health</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>401 S.W. 7th Street, Suite D</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Des Moines, IA 50319</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety</td>
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<td>Springfield, IL  62704</td>
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<td>etc.</td>
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ATTACHMENT 2

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

ACCEPTANCE: This is to advise you that those individuals in Enclosure (1) have been accepted for participation in the training course (H- ) “.” This course is scheduled to be presented Month Day, Year, at the training location in City, State, Street Address, City, State, ZIP. Phone number is .

COURSE: The course will be conducted beginning on Monday at 8:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. each day thereafter. The workshop is scheduled to be completed on Friday. A tentative course agenda is attached (Enclosure 4).

LODGING AND TRAVEL: You should plan to arrive on Sunday, and depart on Friday. Participants must make their own lodging and travel arrangements. Individuals should request a State or government employee rate at the hotels. If traveling by air, you need to contact Carlson Travel at 301-415-5006 for airline reservations. Please complete the invitational travel authorization request as described in FSME Procedure AD-500, “Invitational Travel Authorization and Voucher.” Directions from the Airport to the training location are attached as Enclosure (3). A list of hotels in the area of the training location will be included in this attachment.

Cellular phones and similar devices with audible capability should be disabled while classes are in session. Normal office/business attire is appropriate for students attending training.

Additional Information may be added for specific courses and locations such as restaurants and local transportation assistance.
APPENDIX C

Sample Successful Completion Letter

Mr. Program Manager, Director
Division of Radiation Control
Department of Health
1234 Anywhere Street
Anywhere, Town 12345

Dear Mr. (Program Manager):

This is to inform you that the following members of your staff have successfully completed the following Courses and received the following grades on their exams:

Safety Aspects of Industrial Radiography (H-305)
Rose, LA  - Month Day, Year

Staff Member A - 84
Staff Member B - 90

Please provide this information to each of your staff members and pass on our congratulations.

Sincerely,

Robert J Lewis, Deputy Director
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs,
Division of Material Safety and State Agreements (FSME/MSSA)

Enclosures:
Exams (if available)
APPENDIX C (CONTINUED)

Sample Unsuccessful Completion Letter

Mr. Program Manager, Director
Division of Radiation Control
Department of Health
1234 Anywhere Street
Anywhere, Town 12345

Dear Mr. (Program Manager)

Enclosed is the exam for a member of your staff who attended the following course:

Inspection Procedures Course (G-108)
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - March 9-13, 2000

The course examination results indicate that the individual did not meet the minimum standard for successful completion of the course, which is a grade of 70%. The NRC policy on successful completion of NRC training for Agreement States was sent to you by letter dated November 20, 1996 (SP-96-118). For your information, NRC does not consider its staff qualified until, at a minimum, the exams for required courses are successfully completed. Non-qualified NRC staff are not permitted to conduct independent inspections and license reviews in areas where they have not successfully completed the minimum training requirements.

You should consider recommending additional study of the course material or additional training for the individual. When the individual is prepared to take a re-examination, please contact the person designated in SP-96-118. You, or another manager in your program, should oversee administration of the examination to the individual. The individual may re-take the course, if space is available. We have not notified the individual of his course results and request that you discuss the results with the individual and his options for successful completion.

If you need additional information, please contact me at 301-415- or Brenda G. Usilton at 301-415-2348.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Lewis, Deputy Director
Division of Material Safety and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosure:
Course Exam
FSME/DMSSA Procedure Approval

Training Criteria For Agreement State Personnel- SA-600

Issue Date: January 22, 2001
Expiration Date: January 22, 2003

Paul H. Lohaus
Director, FSME/DMSSA
Original signed by: Paul H. Lohaus
Date: 01/22/01

Frederick C. Combs
Deputy Director, FSME/DMSSA
Original signed by: Frederick C. Combs
Date: 01/12/01

Brenda G. Usilton
Procedure Contact, FSME/DMSSA
Original signed by: Brenda G. Usilton
Date: 12/11/00

NOTE

The FSME/MSSA Director’s Secretary is responsible for the maintenance of this master copy document as part of the FSME/MSSA Procedure Manual. Any changes to the procedure will be the responsibility of the FSME/MSSA Procedure Contact. Copies of FSME/MSSA procedures will be distributed for information.