



Information Security Oversight Office

National Archives and Records Administration



700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20408

ISOO Notice 2009-15: Further Definition of “Comparable Media” as it Relates to Delays in the Onset of Automatic Declassification

July 16, 2009

The purpose of this notice is to further define what is considered “comparable media” under section 3.3(e)(2) of Executive Order 12958, as amended, and 32 C.F.R. Part 2001.30(m)(1). This action is being taken based on prior consultation with the affected departments and agencies and pending a formal change to 32 C.F.R. Part 2001.

Effective immediately, when determined by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) or jointly determined by NARA and another agency, the following are considered comparable media due to the increased difficulty and cost of conducting declassification processing:

- (A) records requiring extraordinary preservation or conservation treatment, to include reformatting, to preclude damage to the records by declassification processing;
- (B) records which pose a potential menace to health, life, or property due to contamination by a hazardous substance; and
- (C) electronic media if the media is subject to issues of software or hardware obsolescence or degraded data.

Please direct any questions regarding this ISOO Notice to: isoo@nara.gov.