

# NMMSS news

PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY BY & FOR NMMSS USERS

SEPTEMBER 2006

## Patricia Tana of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Pat Tana of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack.

Pat worked at the NRC for more than 25 years, the majority of which were in the international safeguards area. Her work included technical reviews of nuclear material export applications and implementation of bilateral agreements for peaceful nuclear cooperation. Pat was the focal point for NRC licensees in matters related to obligations tracking and the assignment and deactivation of NMMSS Reporting Identification Symbols.

We will all greatly miss Pat.

At this time, the NRC has distributed Pat's responsibilities to her co-workers. Unless you receive other guidance from the NRC, please forward any NRC obligation tracking correspondence to Bruce Moran ([bwm@nrc.gov](mailto:bwm@nrc.gov) or 301-415-7871).

## Berkelium Balances Zeroed Out for DOE

On August 9, 2006, the Nuclear Materials Management and Safeguards System (NMMSS) received guidance from the DOE to zero out all balances of non-reportable materials in NMMSS. This guidance included the zeroing out of all NMMSS berkelium balances. The required transactions were input and closed out with the July 2006 processing month. Therefore, no berkelium balances currently exist in the NMMSS database.

Future transactions containing berkelium will continue to be flagged with an error and the DOE contractor will be contacted. For DOE inventory reporting, any berkelium records will be ignored during data import into the NMMSS database.

Please note that according to Section A of DOE M 470.4-6, berkelium is still accountable at the site level and should be tracked in the DOE site nuclear materials accounting systems.

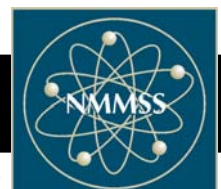
If you have questions concerning the handling of berkelium in the NMMSS database, please contact Tina Barnett at 678-328-1126 or [tbarnett@nacintl.com](mailto:tbarnett@nacintl.com).

## Status of New Agreements for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Brian Horn has informed NMMSS of extensive news reports about two new Agreements for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation. One Agreement is between the United States and India and the other Agreement is between the United States and Russia.

Brian notes that the development of an Agreement for Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation normally involves several drafts of the Agreement and associated discussions between the Governments. During the discussions, clarification is sought as to the procedures and processes each Government will follow during the implementation of an Agreement. Later, when the new Agreement is written and agreed to by Authorities of both Governments, an extensive amount of review remains. This extensive review is a result of the need for both Governments to submit the Agreements for approval by their appropriate authorities. In the United States, this review would involve the President sending the Agreement to Congress for review and approval, review by both the House of Representatives and the Senate, and hearings, as appropriate.

Brian also notes that, if industry has an interest, he will try to arrange a presentation on the status on these two Agreements at the 2007 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting. At the present time, industry



should understand that both of the Agreements are in the early stage of discussion, not finalized and, therefore do not impact current industry operations. To date, no foreign obligations have been established as a result of the on-going negotiations.

The Nuclear Regulatory and Department of Energy will keep you informed on the development of the Agreements and of any changes that will impact industry operations. In the meantime, should you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Brian Horn at 301-415-8128 or [bgh1@nrc.gov](mailto:bgh1@nrc.gov).

## Change 1 of DOE Manual 470.4-6 Issued

Change 1 of DOE Manual 470.4-6, *Nuclear Material Control and Accountability*, has been issued. It is dated 08/14/2006. Section B of the Manual contains a few changes related to NMMSS reporting.

- Elimination of scrap code reporting
  - Currently, facilities will be able to continue to report the scrap code and NMMSS will convert the scrap code to the corresponding 700 code. However, if an invalid scrap code is reported, NMMSS will not be able to convert the code and the facility will receive an error.
  - Following implementation of the NMMSS Upgrade, NMMSS will provide the user community with a notice six months prior to when DOE facilities will begin receiving errors when reporting scrap codes.
- Elimination of DOE facility inventory profile requirement
  - DOE facilities are no longer required to have composition codes approved by oversight offices and headquarters for use in reporting inventory.
  - When reporting inventory, DOE facilities will be allowed to use any composition code appropriate for the material type and the facility type.

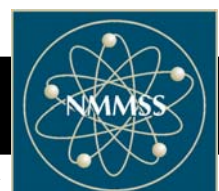
- INMTS Reporting Procedure Added
  - No change for facilities.
- Back reference optional
  - Through several versions, the NMMSS reporting requirements instructed that back reference is required on corrections. However, back reference has actually been optional for DOE facilities in most cases and Change 1 reflects this.
  - Back reference will continue to be required for import/export activity and for IAEA selected or attached facilities.
- Annual Foreign Obligation Reconciliation
  - DOE facilities have been performing the annual reconciliation of foreign obligations on materials. However, the Manual previously did not address the requirement. Change 1 formalizes the requirement making foreign obligation reconciliation mandatory.

## Still Time to Register for the Upcoming NRC Licensee NMMSS Training Course

There is still time to register for the licensee training course being held October 17-19, 2006 in Atlanta, Georgia. The course will include the following topics, among others:

- Completion of data input forms: transaction, material balance, inventory, and concise notes
- Demonstration of the use of SAMS in creating electronic data submissions
- Options for sending data to NMMSS electronically

You may register for the class and obtain a course syllabus by contacting by contacting Ron Bonifay at 678-328-1116 or by email at [rbonifay@nacintl.com](mailto:rbonifay@nacintl.com). Be sure to include your name, job title, facility name, address, telephone number, and email address. Note: There is no cost to attend this course.



## Changes to Licensee Reconciliation

As a reminder, the NRC has directed NMMSS to ensure all open transactions and adjustments are closed as a condition for reconciliation. This change was discussed during a licensee's breakout session at the 2006 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting. NMMSS will be operating under this new directive starting with any inventory period dated on or after October 1, 2006.

If you have any questions NRC reconciliation, please contact Ron Bonifay at 678-328-1116 or [rbonifay@nacintl.com](mailto:rbonifay@nacintl.com).

## Meet the NMMSS Staff

This month's featured staff member is Jeff Anderson. Mr. Anderson is a Nuclear Material Analyst for NMMSS. His primary responsibilities are focused on Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensee data analysis, reporting requirements, and customer service. His current duties include NRC reconciliation, NRC licensee training, and assistance to NMMSS Security. Jeff has been with NMMSS since 1998. You can contact Jeff at [janderson@nacintl.com](mailto:janderson@nacintl.com) or 678-328-1118.

## NMMSS Outreach

Outreach to our users who submit data to the NMMSS is one of our most important responsibilities. Although the NMMSS presents an annual users training meeting, individualized assistance is also available from the DOE NMMSS sponsor and NMMSS staff. By working with our user sites in their own environment, our dedicated team can discuss issues, share knowledge and experiences, and help resolve data problems. To request assistance from DOE Headquarters, please contact Peter Dessaulles on 301-903-4525 or at [pete.dessaules@hq.doe.gov](mailto:pete.dessaules@hq.doe.gov).

If you would like assistance from the NMMSS staff, please contact Dan Collier on 678-328-1120 or at [dcollier@nacintl.com](mailto:dcollier@nacintl.com).

## Questions?

Do you have NMMSS related questions that you would like to see addressed in a future NMMSS News? If so, please forward them to Tina Barnett at 678-328-1126 or by email at [tbarnett@nacintl.com](mailto:tbarnett@nacintl.com).

## Transaction and Inventory Due Dates For DOE Sites

Please note NMMSS transaction and inventory due dates for DOE sites are as follows.

Reporting Month	Transactions Due	Inventory Due
September 2006	October 11	October 16
October 2006	November 10	November 15
November 2006	December 12	December 15
December 2006	January 11	January 16
January 2007	February 9	February 15

## Calendar of Events

Dates	Events
October 17-19, 2006	NMMSS Training for NRC Licensees, Atlanta
May 22-24, 2007	2007 NMMSS Users Annual Training Meeting, Atlanta

## 2006 NMMSS Holiday Schedule

NMMSS Closed	Occasion
November 23-24	Thanksgiving
December 25	Christmas

The NMMSS News is published at the direction of the Department of Energy (DOE) and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). General comments on the publication can be made to Dan Collier of NAC ([dcollier@nacintl.com](mailto:dcollier@nacintl.com), 678-328-1120), Peter Dessaulles of DOE ([Pete.Dessaules@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Pete.Dessaules@hq.doe.gov), 301-903-4525), or Brian Horn of NRC ([BGH1@nrc.gov](mailto:BGH1@nrc.gov), 301-415-8128).

