



20 December 2024

PNRI INFORMATION NOTICE 2024-03

NEW REGULATION: CPR PART 32, “SECURITY REQUIREMENTS IN THE TRANSPORT OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL”

ADDRESSEES

All PNRI licensees and applicant/s transporting nuclear material.

PURPOSE

The Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) is issuing this Information Notice to inform current license holders and applicants of the publication of the Code of PNRI Regulations (CPR) Part 32: “Security Requirements in the Transport of Nuclear Material” in the Official Gazette Vol. 120 No. 51 on 16 December 2024. The PNRI developed this CPR to achieve and maintain a high level of security during transport of nuclear material and to prevent unauthorized access or damage to, and loss, theft, sabotage or unauthorized transfer of nuclear material during transport.

The PNRI expects that addressees will review the information for the applicability of their transport activities and consider actions, as appropriate.

DISCUSSION

The transport of nuclear material around the world is an essential activity to support the application of nuclear technologies for electricity generation and other applications. Nuclear material, as defined in CPR Part 32, refers to plutonium except that with isotopic concentration exceeding 80% in plutonium-238, uranium-233, uranium enriched in the isotope 235 or 233, uranium containing the mixture of isotopes as occurring in nature other than in the form of ore or ore residue; or any material containing one or more of the foregoing. Protecting these materials while they are in transit is an important consideration and one that requires cooperation between different organizations. In that sense, the management of transport operations for high security nuclear cargoes can be more dynamic and challenging, and special attention needs to be provided at all stages of the transport operation.

The new CPR Part 32 establishes regulatory requirements covering licensing, nuclear safety and security and other regulatory controls relating to transport of nuclear material used for civil purposes in the Philippines by air, land or water, including loading, unloading, and in storage incidental to transport.

The development of CPR Part 32 underwent a thorough review process through series of consultations, discussions, and regulatory conference prior to its approval. In general, the new CPR Part 32 provides the requirements for the implementation and maintenance of a physical protection regime for the transport of nuclear material.

Furthermore, the requirements stipulated in the new CPR Part 32 are commensurate with the potential risks posed during handling and transport of material and the degree of complexity of procedures. The licensee is required to prepare its Transport Security Plan, Contingency Plan, Security Measures and Training Program as required in the CPR.

The Code of PNRI Regulations (CPR) Part 32: "Security Requirements in the Transport of Nuclear Material" is now available and can be downloaded from the PNRI website (www.pnri.dost.gov.ph).

REQUIRED LICENSEE RESPONSE

This Information Notice requires no specific action or written response. The PNRI, however, expects that all current license holders and applicant/s who intend to transport nuclear material will review the new CPR and make the necessary action, changes and updates, as appropriate and applicable, and reflect the additional requirements necessary for compliance.

CONTACT

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