

CSSG TASKING 2013-01

Date Issued: December 18, 2012

Task Title: *CSSG Position on Use of Water for Firefighting in Light of Criticality Constraints for DOE Facilities*

Task Statement:

The CSSG is directed to provide an opinion on the acceptable use of water as a firefighting media in light of the potential for a criticality accident via the introduction of moderator, reflector or via the potential for water driven rearrangement of fissile material due to fire fighting activities. This review should encompass:

1. Evaluate under what conditions current regulations drive the requirements for the use of water in firefighting (DOE Orders, NFPA codes, etc).
2. Evaluate the potential relative risk to the facility worker, the co-located worker and the public from the fire and the criticality. What other disciplines should be considered (operations; safeguards & security; industrial safety; radiation protection)
3. Provide guidance on the proper justification for restrictions on water for fighting fires within DOE facilities with regard to criticality safety (in keeping with words in DOE O 420.1C).
4. Determine and suggest if there are changes that need to be made in either the criticality or fire protection standards to ensure harmonization of these requirements?

Resources:

The CSSG will form a sub team to draft a response to this tasking. The draft response will be reviewed by the entire CSSG for concurrence. It is highly recommended that the CSSG drafting team be supplemented by a resource cognizant in the fire protection area. Contractor CSSG members of the team will use their FY13 NCSP CSSG support funding as appropriate; DOE CSSG members of the team will utilize support from their site offices. CSSG emeritus members may be included in the team on a voluntary basis.

Task Deliverables:

1. CSSG selected writing team members will produce a draft response by March 15, 2013.
2. CSSG to provide comments on draft to the CSSG Deputy Chair within 10 days of the issuance of the draft.
3. CSSG Deputy Chair to consolidate comments and provide back to the CSSG for concurrence five days later.
4. CSSG Chair briefs the NCSP Manager on the comments and response by April 15, 2013.
5. CSSG Chair transmits the CSSG response to NCSP Manager by April 30, 2013.

 12/20/2012

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DOE NCSP Manager