



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace and Development

62nd Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference Senior Regulators' Meeting – September 20th 2018

IAEA's activities to support regulatory authority in developing national EPR regulations and offsite emergency plans

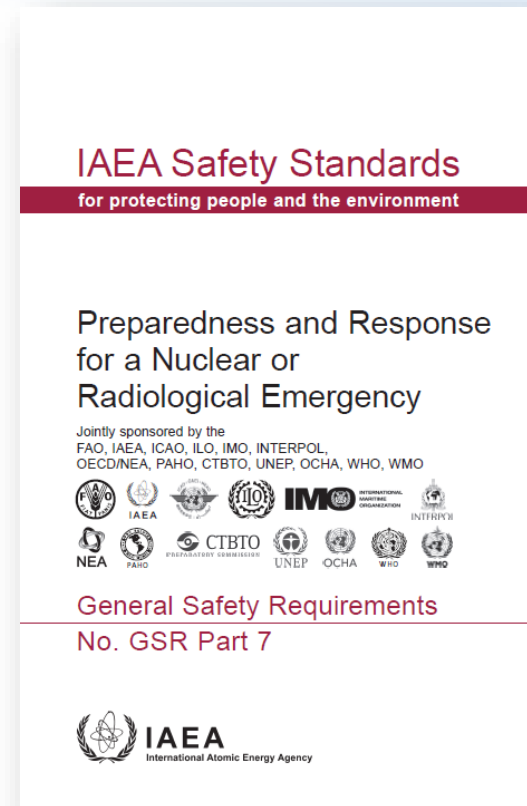
Elena Buglova

Head, IAEA Incident and Emergency Centre

Introduction



- IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR Part 7
 - Safety requirements on adequate level of EPR in any State
 - Published 2015
 - Available in English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish
 - Co-sponsored by 13 IOs:
 - CTBTO, FAO, IAEA, ICAO, ILO, IMO, INTERPOL, OECD/NEA, PAHO, UNEP, OCHA, WHO, WMO



Safety Standards in EPR area



- GSR Part 7 and associated Guides (GSG-2, GS-G-2.1 and GSG-11) provide basis for developing national regulation on EPR matters
 - For EPR arrangements of licensees (always under responsibility of regulatory body)
 - For EPR arrangements of off-site response organizations (may be but not necessarily responsibility of regulatory body)
 - Usually at higher governmental level to ensure they can be enforced to be complied with by any organization at any level

Regulatory bodies have a dual role



– REGULATOR

- To regulate on-site emergency arrangements of operating organizations through the regulatory processes

– RESPONSE ORGANIZATION

- To prepare and respond to an emergency in line with its assigned functions that might include for example:
 - Provision of advice and expert services on EPR at national level

As a regulator:

- Establish regulations and guides
 - On-site EPR requirements for the licensees
 - The RB does not usually have jurisdiction on non-licensees, i.e. off-site response organizations
 - But “[..], the RB shall ensure [..] that the on-site emergency arrangements are integrated with those of other response organizations, as appropriate [..]” (para. 4.14 of GSR Part 7)
- Authorize
 - Establish an authorization system through which the on-site emergency plan is approved
 - “This emergency plan [..] shall be submitted to the regulatory body for approval.” (para. 6.10 of GSR Part 7)
- Verify
 - Review and assess submitted EPR documentation for compliance with legal requirements
 - Establish an inspection system that covers on-site EPR
 - Observe and evaluate systematically some exercises

As a response organization:

- Government may assign a number of roles and responsibilities to RB in response to a nuclear or radiological emergency
- These roles and responsibilities may vary from MS to MS and may include:
 - Provision of advise to government and off-site response organization
 - Provision of expert services
 - Provision of public information
 - Liaising with international counterparts based on bilateral or multilateral arrangements
 - For example, acting as National Competent Authority in relation to Early Notification Convention and Assistance Convention

RB's response roles

- No role and responsibility are to be assigned to the RB in response to a nuclear or radiological emergency that might compromise or conflict with discharging its responsibility for regulating the safety of facilities and activities
 - Examples of such roles and responsibilities:
 - Deciding on and/or taking on-site mitigatory actions
 - Declaration of emergency class
 - Deciding on terminating the emergency on the site

Experience from peer review services



- EPREV and IRRS (Module 10) have ascertained range of models regarding role of the regulatory body within national EPR framework
 - Roles in establishing on-site EPR regulations are usually homogenous
 - In general, good alignment of the regulator's role and regulations with Safety Standards
 - Roles in establishing off-site EPR regulations includes variety of models
 - In general, stronger involvement of regulatory body leads to more opportunities for increasing consistency of protective actions amongst neighboring countries
 - Regulator's role in response is very varied as well

Consistency/harmonization

- Nuclear and radiological emergencies may have transnational impact
- Development of national EPR arrangements is national responsibility
 - Many organizations involved
- EPR framework needs to be adapted to specific national circumstances
 - No “one size fits all”
- Importance of consistency/harmonization was highlighted by Member States at various meetings
 - EPZ, criteria for protective actions, protection of emergency workers and helpers, communication with the public, food and commodities control, etc.

Consistency/harmonization – cont'd

- “Application of the IAEA safety standards on EPR would improve preparedness and response, facilitate communication in an emergency and contribute to harmonization of national criteria for protective actions and other response actions” (Fukushima Daiichi Accident Report, Technical Volume 3)
- GSR Part 7 provides suitable basis and reference for harmonization, since process of its development involves consensus from MS)
- Role of regulatory bodies in harmonizing EPR regulations and criteria

Relevant IAEA's activities



- School of radiation emergency managements
- School on drafting regulations in EPR
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Information Management System (EPRIMS)
 - Interactive, web-based tool enabling MSs to self-assess their EPR arrangements and to share information on results
 - 103 MSs with nominated Country Coordinators
 - 25 MSs who share information amongst themselves
 - 597 Modules published
 - 98 Modules shared
 - 391 users

Conclusions

- Development of national EPR arrangements is national responsibility
- Role of regulatory body varies among MS, in particular regarding off-site regulations.
- Consistency/harmonization is important aspect within international EPR framework, especially in response to emergencies with transnational consequences
- GSR Part 7 as reference in this process
- Important role of regulator in addressing matters of consistency/harmonization in EPR



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency

Atoms for Peace and Development

Thank you!

