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Review of regulations concerning physical protection of nuclear facilities in the Russian Federation

In the Russian Federation, physical protection of nuclear facilities (nuclear installations, radiation sources, storage facilities, nuclear materials and radioactive substances) is defined as an independent activity in the field of atomic energy use at the level of federal legislation. The Federal Environmental, Industrial and Nuclear Supervision Service of Russia (Rostechnadzor) is responsible for creation and support of a regulatory and legal framework for nuclear safety and security, including physical protection of nuclear facilities.

Rostechnadzor is an independent Russian state nuclear safety and security regulatory authority in the field of atomic energy use. Rostechnadzor is authorized to develop, approve and put into force federal rules and regulations in the field of atomic energy use for establishing among others requirements for the physical protection of nuclear facilities. The federal rules and regulations are legally binding on all persons carrying out activities in the field of atomic energy use and are valid throughout the Russian Federation. Rostechnadzor also develops and approves safety guides for atomic energy use, which contain recommendations on how to meet the requirements for physical protection.

When developing federal rules and regulations with requirements for physical protection, the international obligations of the Russian Federation in the field of atomic energy use and recommendations of international organizations, including recommendations of the IAEA Nuclear Security Series publications (NSS publications), are taken into account.

Currently, the following main regulatory legal acts in the field of physical protection of nuclear facilities are effective in Russia:

Federal Law of November 25, 1995 No. 170-FZ "On the Use of Atomic Energy";

"Rules for the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials, Nuclear Installations and Storage Facilities for Nuclear Materials" (Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation);

Requirements for the systems of physical protection of nuclear materials, nuclear facilities and storage facilities for nuclear materials (federal rules and regulations in the field of atomic energy use, NP-083-15);

Rules for the physical protection of radiation sources, storage facilities, radioactive substances (federal rules and regulations in the field of atomic energy use, NP-034-15);

Rules for the physical protection of radioactive substances and radiation sources during their transportation (federal rules and regulations in the field of atomic energy use, NP-073-11);

Requirements for the physical protection of nuclear-powered vessels and vessels transporting nuclear materials (federal rules and regulations in the field of atomic energy use, NP-085-10).

The report contains:

the review of current state of the regulatory framework for the physical protection of nuclear facilities in the Russian Federation;

examples of the implementation of recommendations of NSS publications in federal rules and regulations in the field of atomic energy use and safety guides for atomic energy use by Rostechnadzor;

main trends in the development of the normative regulation of physical protection in the Russian Federation and avenues for further enhancements of a regulatory framework for physical protection of Russian nuclear facilities.

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