

External Affairs and International Trade Canada.

The Facility Operators' Role in Safeguards

Nuclear facility operators in Canada have obligations that stem directly from the Atomic Energy Control Regulations and the NPT in that they must regularly report material transfers to the AECB. The staff required to undertake these reporting requirements and prepare for inventory checks varies according to the scale of the operation. Larger facilities require a nuclear material control group to process and report on the almost daily transfers. Additional services to the IAEA are provided by larger facility operators on a continuing basis, free of charge. These services include the provision of:

- access to the facility for the inspection of nuclear material records and the servicing and maintenance of installed safeguards equipment;
 - escorts for inspections and the provision of required health and safety equipment;
 - external power and climate control for IAEA-designated instrumentation;
 - continuous and adequate lighting for satisfactory operation of IAEA surveillance cameras (if installed); and
- office space during inspections for IAEA inspectors conducting audits of facility records.

The contact persons designated for the larger facilities spend a considerable amount of their time concerned with these activities. Co-ordinating IAEA equipment installation and maintenance, when required, is particularly time consuming when installation is undertaken by the facility itself, because the contact person becomes responsible for the preparation of the necessary work authorizations and schedules.