Federal Register Summary: January 2019

Executive Order to Protect and Actively Manage Federal Forests to Mitigate Wildfire Risk
January 7, 2019 – President Donald Trump issued an executive order asking that the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture implement fire management policies in order to prevent catastrophic wildfires and improve the health of America’s forests. [84 FR 45]

Department of Energy (DOE)

Energy Conservation Standards Rule Amendment
January 29, 2019 – DOE issued a final rule to revise its current energy conservation standards and clarifying its external power supplies definition as dictated by Congress through the Power and Security Systems Act and EPS Improvement Act. [84 FR 437]

Proposed Rule for Public Comment Regarding Residential Furnace and Commercial Water Heater Standards Interpretive Statement
January 29, 2019 – DOE is seeking public comment on whether an interpretive statement should be made regarding DOE’s proposed energy conservation standards for residential furnaces and commercial water heaters would affect the “performance characteristics” defined by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before 11:59 p.m. (ET) on March 1, 2019. [84 FR 449]

Aero-Tech Light Bulb Co. Exemption Denial for Department of Energy Rough Service Lamps Energy Conservation Standards
January 30 2019 – DOE denied Aero-Tech Light Bulb Co.’s application for a two-year small business exemption from the rough service lamps energy conservation standards. Aero-Tech requested this exemption on the grounds that without it, there would be a lessening of competition. DOE and the Department of Justice disagreed and consequently the request was denied. [84 FR 469]

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

Proposed Rule for Ground Water Protection at Uranium In Situ Recovery Facilities
January 31, 2019 – NRC is requesting comments from stakeholders to help determine whether it should implement rules to amend regulations regarding the domestic licensing of source material by creating a code of general ground water protection requirements at uranium in situ recovery (ISR) facilities. Regulatory rulemaking was implemented in 2006 but it was placed on hold in 2010. [84 FR 574]

Interim Staff Guidance Digital Instrumentation and Controls Issuance on the “Licensing Process”
January 31, 2019 – NRC issued the Interim Staff Guidance (ISG) Digital Instrumentation and Controls (DI&C)—ISG-06, Revision 2, “Licensing Process.” The ISG guides activities conducted prior to and during the license amendment requests review process. [84 FR 804]