

the entity must be destroyed or transferred as directed by the HHS Secretary.

(h) An entity must provide notice in writing to the HHS Secretary in accordance with § 73.21 at least five business days before destroying a select agent or toxin, if the destruction would be for the purpose of discontinuing activities with a select agent or toxin covered by a certificate of registration. This will allow the HHS Secretary to observe the destruction or take other action as appropriate.

§ 73.8 Security risk assessment.

(a) An entity may not possess or use in the United States, receive from outside the United States, or transfer within the United States, any select agent or toxin unless approved by the HHS Secretary or the USDA Secretary based on a security risk assessment by the Attorney General. This paragraph does not apply to Federal, State, or local governmental agencies, but does apply to the Responsible Official and others working for or otherwise acting on behalf of such agencies.

(b) An entity may not provide an individual access to a select agent or toxin and an individual may not access a select agent or toxin, unless the individual is approved by the HHS Secretary or the USDA Secretary, based on a security risk assessment by the Attorney General.

(c) To obtain a security risk assessment under this section, an entity must submit to the Attorney General the information requested for the entity, the Responsible Official, any individual who owns or controls the entity, and any other individuals required to obtain approval under this section. The determinations regarding approval will be made by the agency that is responsible for making determinations regarding the corresponding certificate of registration. An entity will receive prompt notice of action taken in response to a request for approval for the entity, the Responsible Official, and individuals. An individual will receive prompt notice of a denial of approval.

(d) The Attorney General will conduct a security risk assessment on entities and individuals whose identifying information is properly sub-

mitted. Based on the security risk assessment, the Attorney General will notify the HHS Secretary if the Attorney General identifies any entity, individual who owns or controls the entity, or any other individual who is:

(1) A restricted person under 18 U.S.C. 175b; or

(2) Reasonably suspected by any Federal law enforcement or intelligence agency of:

(i) Committing a crime specified in 18 U.S.C. 2332b(g)(5);

(ii) Having a knowing involvement with an organization that engages in domestic or international terrorism (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2331) or with any other organization that engages in intentional crimes of violence; or

(iii) Being an agent of a foreign power (as defined in 50 U.S.C. 1801).

(e) The HHS Secretary will deny or revoke access to any select agent or toxin to an entity or individual identified by the Attorney General as a restricted person under paragraph (d)(1). The HHS Secretary will deny or revoke access to any select agent or toxin to an entity or individual identified by the Attorney General as meeting the criteria of paragraph (d)(2) unless determined by the HHS Secretary to be warranted in the interest of the public health and safety or national security. For individuals meeting the criteria of paragraph (d)(2) the HHS Secretary may provide a limited approval for a specified time based upon the finding that circumstances warrant such action in the interest of the public health and safety or national security.

(f) Unless a shorter period is granted under paragraph (e) of this section, an approval for an entity or individual under this section will be valid for five years unless terminated sooner. The HHS Secretary may terminate an approval for an entity or an individual based on a request from the entity or individual, a security risk assessment under this section, or a failure to comply with the provisions of this part, and may take such action immediately if necessary to protect the public health and safety, or national security.

(g) The HHS Secretary will request the Attorney General to expedite the review process for an individual and will take action to expedite the HHS

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Secretary's review process for an individual upon a showing of good cause (e.g., public health or agricultural emergencies, national security, impending expiration of a research grant, a short-term visit by a prominent researcher). To apply for an expedited review, an entity must submit a request in writing in accordance with § 73.21 to the HHS Secretary establishing the need for such action. The HHS Secretary will provide a written decision granting the request, in whole or in part, or denying the request.

§ 73.9 Responsible Official.

(a) As a condition of conducting activities regulated under this part, an entity must identify and authorize an individual as the Responsible Official. The Responsible Official may identify one or more individuals, any of whom may serve as the Alternate Responsible Official when the Responsible Official is unavailable. The Responsible Official and all individuals identified to serve as the Alternate Responsible Official must meet all of the qualifications for a Responsible Official. The Responsible Official and all Alternate Responsible Officials must:

- (1) Be approved under § 73.8;
 - (2) Be familiar with the requirements of this part; and
 - (3) Have authority and responsibility to ensure that the requirements of this part are met, on behalf of the entity.
- (b) For purposes of this part, the Alternate Responsible Official acting in the absence of the Responsible Official may conduct all of those activities required under this part to be performed by the Responsible Official.

(c) The Responsible Official is responsible for ensuring compliance with the regulations, including:

- (1) Developing and implementing safety, security and emergency response plans in accordance with § 73.10—§ 73.12;
- (2) Allowing only approved individuals to have access to select agents or toxins in accordance with § 73.8 and § 73.11;
- (3) Providing appropriate training for safety, security and emergency response in accordance with § 73.13;
- (4) Transferring select agents or toxins in accordance with § 73.14;

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(5) Providing timely notice of any theft, loss, or release of a select agent or toxin in accordance with § 73.13;

(6) Maintaining detailed records of information necessary to give a complete accounting of all activities related to select agents or toxins in accordance with § 73.15.

(7) The reporting of the identification of a select agent or toxin as a result of diagnosis, verification or proficiency testing in accordance with § 73.6.

§ 73.10 Safety.

(a) An entity subject to the provisions of this part, must develop and implement a safety plan. In developing a safety plan, an entity should consider:

(1) The biosafety standards and requirements for BSL 2, 3, or 4 operations, as they pertain to the respective select agents, that are contained in the CDC/NIH publication, "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories," including all appendices except Appendix F. Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Post Office Box 371954, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 75250-7954 or call in the Washington, DC metropolitan area 202-512-1800 or outside that area call toll free 1-866-512-1800. Copies may be inspected at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, Mail Stop E-79, Atlanta, Georgia. This publication is also available on the CDC Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov>.

(2) The specific requirements for handling toxins found in 29 CFR 1910.1450, "Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories" and/or 29 CFR 1910.1200, "Hazard Communication," whichever applies and specific provisions for handling toxins found in Appendix I in the CDC/NIH publication, "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories,"

(3) For provisions of the safety plan relating to genetic elements, recombinant nucleic acids and recombinant organisms, the "NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules," (NIH Guidelines). This includes, among other things, provisions regarding risk assessment, physical containment, biological containment, and local review and applies to all recombinant DNA research, regardless of