

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
500 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20536



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

March 19, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Tae D. Johnson  
Assistant Director

THROUGH: Jay M. Brooks  
Deputy Assistant Director

FROM: Cynthia R. Parker  
Unit Chief, Detention Standards Compliance

SUBJECT: Deficiency – Emergency Generators

Purpose

Provide a waiver for the Salt Lake City, Las Vegas ERO Sub-office (SLC/LVG) as it relates to the Environmental Health and Safety in Detention Facilities, Part 2, Item 7, Section III, Number O1 within the 2000 National Detention Standards (NDS), which states "Power generators will be tested at least every two weeks. The bi-weekly test of the emergency electrical generator will last one hour."

Background

On October 25, 2011, the City of Henderson Detention Center (HDC) was inspected by the Office of Detention Oversight. As a result of this inspection, the aforementioned deficiency was noted.

Discussion

HDC management has expressed concerns regarding the requirements of this portion of NDS as compliance would cause an unreasonable hardship. The City of Henderson, Department of Public Works is in control of the maintenance, testing and repair of the HDC generators. Currently the City of Henderson, Department of Public Works performs monthly testing of the generators for 30 minutes. Due to a combination of factors: air quality, cost, and the fact HDC does not have control of the testing process; HDC has requested a waiver of the bi-weekly, one hour testing requirement.

Recommendation

I recommend you approve a waiver to NDS Part 2, Item 7, Section III, Number O1, as the City of Henderson, Department of Public Works is responsible for maintenance, testing and repair of the HDC generators. Additionally, there is an ongoing air pollution concern within the City of Henderson as well as cost considerations which prevent HDC from performing generator testing as required by the standard.

Approve/date Jay M Brooks (A) 4/2/12 Disapprove/date \_\_\_\_\_

Modify/date \_\_\_\_\_ Needs more discussion \_\_\_\_\_

Note: HDC must continue with the monthly tests for at least 30 minutes.

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