§ 27.235 Alternative security program.

(a) Covered facilities may submit an Alternate Security Program (ASP) pursuant to the requirements of this section. The Assistant Secretary may approve an Alternate Security Program, in whole, in part, or subject to revisions or supplements, upon a determination that the Alternate Security Program meets the requirements of this part and provides for an equivalent level of security to that established by this Part.

(1) A Tier 4 facility may submit an ASP in lieu of a Security Vulnerability Assessment, Site Security Plan, or both.

(2) Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 facilities may submit an ASP in lieu of a Site Security Plan. Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 facilities may not submit an ASP in lieu of a Security Vulnerability Assessment.

(b) The Department will provide notice to a covered facility about the approval or disapproval, in whole or in part, of an ASP, using the procedure specified in §27.240 if the ASP is intended to take the place of a Security Vulnerability Assessment or using the procedure specified in §27.245 if the ASP is intended to take the place of a Site Security Plan.

§ 27.240 Review and approval of security vulnerability assessments.

(a) Review and Approval. The Department will review and approve in writing all Security Vulnerability Assessments that satisfy the requirements of §27.215, including Alternative Security Programs submitted pursuant to §27.235.

(b) If a Security Vulnerability Assessment does not satisfy the requirements of §27.215, the Department will provide the facility with a written notification that includes a clear explanation of deficiencies in the Security Vulnerability Assessment. The facility shall then enter further consultations with the Department and resubmit a sufficient Security Vulnerability Assessment by the time specified in the written notification provided by the Department under this section. If the resubmitted Security Vulnerability Assessment does not satisfy the requirements of §27.215, the Department will provide the facility with written notification (including a clear explanation of deficiencies in the SVA) of the Department’s disapproval of the SVA.

§ 27.245 Review and approval of site security plans.

(a) Review and Approval. (1) The Department will review and approve or disapprove all Site Security Plans that satisfy the requirements of §27.225, including Alternative Security Programs submitted pursuant to §27.235.

(i) The Department will review Site Security Plans through a two-step process. Upon receipt of Site Security Plan from the covered facility, the Department will review the documentation and make a preliminary determination as to whether it satisfies the requirements of §27.225. If the Department finds that the requirements are satisfied, the Department will issue a Letter of Authorization to the covered facility.

(ii) Following issuance of the Letter of Authorization, the Department will inspect the covered facility in accordance with §27.250 for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements of this Part.

(iii) If the Department approves the Site Security Plan in accordance with §27.250, the Department will issue a Letter of Approval to the covered facility, and the facility shall implement the approved Site Security Plan.

(2) The Department will not disapprove a Site Security Plan submitted under this part based on the presence or absence of a particular security measure. The Department may disapprove a Site Security Plan that fails to satisfy the risk-based performance standards established in §27.230.