

the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Docketing and Services Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last 10 days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-(800) 248-5100 (in Missouri 1-(800) 342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number N1023 and the following message addressed to Phillip F. McKee: petitioner's name and telephone number, date petition was mailed, plant name, and publication date and page number of this Federal Register notice. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to Ms. L. M. Cuoco, Senior Nuclear Counsel, Northeast Utilities Services Company, Post Office Box 270, Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0270, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1) (i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated July 3, 1996, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Learning Resources Center, Three Rivers Community-Technical College, 574 New London Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut, and the Waterford Library, ATTN: Vince Juliano, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, Connecticut.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of July 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
Daniel G. McDonald,

*Sr. Project Manager, Northeast Utilities Project Directorate, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 96-17653 Filed 7-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

[Docket No. 30-7022]

**Notice of Intent to Remove the RTI Inc., Rockaway, New Jersey Site From the NRC Site Decommissioning Management Plan**

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission intends to remove the RTI Inc., Rockaway, New Jersey site from the list of contaminated sites in NRC's Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP). Remediation of residual radioactive contamination in areas of the facility has successfully been completed and the facility meets the current NRC criteria for release for unrestricted use.

**DATES:** The NRC hereby provides notice of an opportunity to comment on the proposed NRC action. Comments must be submitted by no later than August 12, 1996. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to USNRC, Region I, Attn: Anthony Dimitriadis, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406. Hand deliver comments to 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406 between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anthony Dimitriadis, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, USNRC, Region I, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406, Telephone: (610) 337-6953.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The RTI site in Rockaway, New Jersey, was identified in 1988 by the NRC as a site where significant residual radioactive contamination was present as a result of past operations. RTI is licensed by NRC to perform irradiation of commercial products using a cobalt-60 in-air irradiator. Leakage from the cobalt-60 sources in the 1970's contaminated the irradiator storage pool. Disposal of contaminated waste and effluent discharge caused contamination of soil outside the irradiator.

RTI identified radioactive contamination at various locations inside and outside the fenced area of the site. As a result, NRC included this site in the list of contaminated sites contained in the Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP) in 1990 to ensure that remediation of the areas was accomplished in a timely manner. The site was listed in the SDMP because it satisfied the criterion of large amounts of contaminated soil or burial grounds that may be difficult to decommission.

RTI has remediated residual contamination in the various areas on the site property, performed radiological surveys in those areas, and requested by letter dated June 14, 1996, that the NRC remove the Rockaway, New Jersey site from the SDMP. The staff of the NRC's Region I Division of Nuclear Materials Safety has reviewed and approved various remediation activities since 1987. The staff has also reviewed various records of past activities at the site and the radiological surveys performed by RTI and their contractor and conducted confirmatory radiological measurements at the site. Based on these reviews and independent measurements, the NRC staff has determined that the facility meets the requirements for release of these areas for unrestricted use.

The SDMP describes four criteria that make a site eligible for removal from the SDMP list, including (1) Termination of a license after successful remediation, (2) completion of remediation of an inactive area and modification of the active license to reflect the remediation, (3) completion of remediation at an unlicensed site, or (4) transferral of regulatory jurisdiction for remediation. The RTI site has satisfied the second criterion because the licensee has successfully remediated the inactive, contaminated portion of the site. Licensed irradiation operations are planned to continue at the site. Consequently, the NRC staff intends to remove the RTI site in Rockaway, New Jersey, from the SDMP.

For further details with respect to this action, documents are available for inspection at the NRC's Region I offices located at 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Persons desiring to review documents at the Region I Office, should call Ms. Cheryl Buracker at (610) 337-5093 several days in advance to assure that the documents will be readily available for review.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 5th day of July, 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.  
Michael F. Weber,

*Chief, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

[FR Doc. 96-17651 Filed 7-10-96; 8:45 am]

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[Docket No. 40-6354]

**Notice of NRC Consideration of Removing the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, Site From the Site Decommissioning Management Plan**

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is considering the removal of the U.S. Department of the Army, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, site from the list of contaminated sites contained in NRC's Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP). The NRC intends to remove the site from the SDMP list if it determines that the environmental impact of the continued use of munitions containing depleted uranium (DU) at this location is small and acceptable.

**DATES:** The NRC hereby provides notice of an opportunity to comment on the proposed NRC action. Comments must be submitted by no later than August 12, 1996. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to USNRC, Region I, Attn: Anthony Dimitriadis, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406. Hand deliver comments to 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406 between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anthony Dimitriadis, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, USNRC, Region I, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406, Telephone: (610) 337-6953.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of the Army site at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, was identified in 1990 by the NRC as a site where significant residual radioactive contamination was present as a result of licensed operations. The Army has tested munitions containing depleted uranium (DU) at the Aberdeen Proving Ground since the 1950's under a license issued under the Atomic Energy Act. DU munitions have been test-fired on an outdoor testing range and have become commingled with unexploded ordnance. Environmental monitoring performed by the Army identified measurable amounts of uranium in some samples, but the existing information was not sufficient to determine if this uranium was naturally occurring or the result of the licensed activities.

The NRC included the Aberdeen site on the list of contaminated sites in the Site Decommissioning Management

Plan (SDMP) in 1990 because it satisfied the criterion of large amounts of contaminated soil that may be difficult to decommission. Since the site was included in the SDMP, NRC has reviewed further the licensee's contention that the uranium contamination is environmentally of low consequence and the licensee's request to continue testing DU munitions at the site. The Department of the Army submitted a study of the long term fate of DU at the Aberdeen site, which was performed by Los Alamos National Laboratory. The study evaluated the current distribution of DU in environmental media (e.g., soil, surface water, groundwater, vegetation) at the Aberdeen site and assesses environmental transport of DU that may result in exposures to humans and wildlife. The study concludes that radiological doses to the environment due to current and projected DU testing at Aberdeen are minimal and acceptably low.

On June 26, 1996, the Department of the Army requested by letter that NRC remove the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland site from the SDMP. The request before the NRC at this time is to authorize continued use of DU at the Aberdeen site based on existing information that shows minimal environmental impact from the Army's DU testing program. Since 1990, the NRC staff has reviewed and approved various actions proposed by the Army including "recovery operations" for all future testing of DU munitions, an Environmental Radiation Monitoring Plan, and the Los Alamos National Laboratory Long Term Fate Study.

The SDMP describes four criteria that make a site eligible for removal from the SDMP list, including (1) termination of a license after successful remediation, (2) completion of remediation of an area and modification of an active license to reflect the remediation, (3) completion of remediation at an unlicensed site, or (4) transferral of regulatory jurisdiction for remediation. Aberdeen does not qualify for removal from the SDMP list under any of these criteria. However, the NRC staff has concluded that the Army has established acceptable procedures for controlling and monitoring the DU testing and that unacceptable environmental impacts are not occurring at the Aberdeen site. In addition, the Army has stated its intent to pay for decommissioning of the firing range and other facilities at Aberdeen in the event that the license is terminated at some point in the future. With these controls in place, little benefit would be gained by continuing to include the Aberdeen site in the SDMP.

Consequently, the NRC staff is considering whether the Aberdeen site should be removed from the SDMP.

For further details with respect to this action, documents are available for inspection at the NRC's Region I offices located at 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Persons desiring to review documents at the Region I Office, should call Ms. Cheryl Buracker at (610) 337-5093 several days in advance to assure that the documents will be readily available for review.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 5th day of July, 1996.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Michael F. Weber,  
*Chief, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

[FR Doc. 96-17652 Filed 7-10-96; 8:45 am]

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## UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

### Board of Governors

#### Notice of Vote to Close Meeting

At its meeting on July 1, 1996, the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service voted unanimously to close to public observation its meeting scheduled for August 5, 1996, in Detroit, Michigan. The members will consider the Postal Rate Commission Decision and Recommended Opinion in Docket No. MC96-2, Preferred Rates Classification Reform.

The meeting is expected to be attended by the following persons: Governors Alvarado, Daniels, del Junco, Dyhrkopp, Fineman, Mackie, McWherter, Rider and Winters; Postmaster General Runyon, Deputy Postmaster General Coughlin, Secretary to the Board Koerber, and General Counsel Elcano.

The Board determined that pursuant to section 552b(c)(3) of title 5, United States Code, and section 7.3(c) of title 39, Code of Federal Regulations, this portion of the meeting is exempt from the open meeting requirement of the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b(b)) because it is likely to disclose information in connection with proceedings under chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code (having to do with postal ratemaking, mail classification and changes in postal services), which is specifically exempted from disclosure by section 410(c)(4) of title 39, United States Code.

The Board has determined further that pursuant to section 552b(c)(10) of title 5, United States Code, and section 7.3(j) of