

Dated: September 21, 1999.

Kenneth M. Becker,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 99-25019 Filed 9-24-99; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

NRC Workshop on the NRC's Inspection Program for Decommissioning Power Reactors

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Public Workshop and Meeting with the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) to Discuss the Agency's Inspection of Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants.

SUMMARY: On October 13, 1999, at 7:00 p.m., the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will conduct a Public Workshop at the Ramada Inn, in Meriden, CT, to discuss the Agency's program for its inspection of decommissioning nuclear power plants. Specifically, the staff plans to provide a short presentation on the current inspection program for reactor facilities that are decommissioning, summarize the findings of the inspection program since 1997, and discuss proposed changes to the current program. Following this presentation, a forum will be provided for the public, the nuclear industry, and other regulatory agencies to discuss and inform the NRC staff of any questions or concerns regarding the Agency's inspection of permanently shutdown nuclear power plants.

On October 14, 1999, NEI has been invited to present to the NRC staff, its assessment of the NRC's inspection of decommissioning power reactors. This meeting will be open for public observation and will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Ramada Inn, Meriden, CT.

The insights gained from the workshop and meeting will be evaluated by the staff and factored into the Agency's lessons learned and risk insights that will be used to revise and improve the procedures used to inspect permanently shutdown reactor plants. NRC management, project managers, and specialist inspectors will be in attendance at the workshop and meeting to respond individually or in concert to questions or concerns. The NRC will be represented by the NRC Regional Offices and the Offices of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) and Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards (NMSS).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 28, 1996, the Commission amended the

regulations on the requirements that lead to the termination of an operating license for nuclear power reactors (FR 39278, July 29, 1996). These amended regulations were based on, in part, an Agency position that the degree of regulatory oversight required for a nuclear power reactor during its decommissioning stage is considerably less than that required for the facility during its operating stage.

NRC Inspection Manual Chapter (IMC) 2561, "Decommissioning Inspection Program," was completely revised and issued on August 8, 1997, to incorporate lessons learned from the inspection of decommissioning power plants and to, in part, implement the August 28, 1996, amended regulations, as described above. The manual chapter was written to cover all phases of decommissioning whether the facility was placed in long-term safe storage (SAFSTOR) or it was being actively decontaminated and dismantled (DECON) to support radiological release of the site and license termination. To effectively inspect all decommissioning power plants regardless of the chosen decommissioning option, a core inspection program was developed to evaluate the key functional areas of: (1) Facility management and control (organization, cost controls, safety reviews, modifications, audits, self-assessment, corrective actions, and status reviews); (2) decommissioning support activities (maintenance, surveillance, cold weather preparations, physical security, and independent spent fuel storage facilities); (3) spent fuel safety (wet and dry spent fuel storage and fuel handling); and (4) radiological safety (occupational, transportation, and radioactive waste treatment). Further, the level of inspection effort (i.e., hours of direct inspection) required by the manual chapter was scaled or graduated to a number of considerations including licensee performance, the conduct of major decommissioning activities, and the level of contamination or radiation involved in particular decommissioning activities. Thus, IMC 2561 is risk-informed and the level of NRC inspection at a permanently shutdown unit is commensurate with the status of facility decommissioning and safety.

When the 1997 revision of IMC 2561 was issued, the staff planned to review and revise the IMC and associated inspection procedures (IPs) following a period of implementation by the NRC Regional Offices. This was to (1) Ensure that the lessons learned from the four most recently shutdown operating power reactors (Haddam Neck, Millstone Unit 1, Big Rock Point, and

Maine Yankee) would be factored into the IMC and IPs, and (2) allow the staff another opportunity to factor in additional risk insights gained from rulemaking activities and staff analysis of spent fuel accidents, emergency preparedness, and safeguards. This public meeting is a way the public can influence the staff's revision of the decommissioning power reactor inspection program.

DATES: October 13 and 14, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Ramada Plaza Hotel, 275 Research Parkway, Meriden, CT 06450, (203) 238-2380

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul W. Harris, Project Manager, Decommissioning Section, Project Directorate IV and Decommissioning, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, at (301) 415-1169 or by e-mail at PWH1@NRC.gov. For public inspection of NRC IMC 2561, "Decommissioning Power Reactor Inspection Program," and its associated NRC IPs, see the NRC's Website at: <http://www.nrc.gov> under "Reference Library," "NRC Inspection Manual," and then "Manual Chapter" or "Inspection Procedure."

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 17th day of September 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Michael T. Masnik,

Section Chief, Decommissioning Section, Project Directorate IV and Decommissioning, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 113th meeting on October 12-13, 1999, at the Alexis Park Resort, 375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

Tuesday, October 12, 1999—8:30 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

*A. The Role of Safety Assessment in the Yucca Mountain Regulatory Process—*The Committee will hold a facilitated working group to explore the role of risk assessment in the licensing of a high-level waste repository. Participation is expected from representatives of the Nuclear

Regulatory Commission (NRC), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Department of Energy (DOE) as well as representatives from the State of Nevada, affected units of local government, the nuclear industry, and the public (8:30 a.m.–5:15 p.m.).

B. Discussion and Comment—The ACNW members will hear comments and concerns from the public regarding the Yucca Mountain project (7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.).

Wednesday, October 13, 1999—8:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m.

C. Nye County Comments—Representatives of Nye County will discuss the status of the scientific investigations being conducted by Nye County at the Yucca Mountain site (8:30 a.m.).

D. Clark County Comments—Representatives from Clark County will discuss spent fuel and high-level waste (HLW) transportation and other issues relevant to the proposed HLW repository at Yucca Mountain (9:35 a.m.).

E. Comments by the State of Nevada—Representatives of the State will present their views on technical issues relevant to the proposed HLW repository at Yucca Mountain for consideration by the Committee (10:20 a.m.).

F. DOE Process Model Reports (PMR)—Representatives from the DOE will discuss the PMR process and how the information presented in these nine reports will be used as input to the Total Systems Performance Assessment and ultimately the site recommendation decision (11:05 a.m.).

G. DOE's Work Reprioritization—Representatives from DOE will discuss recent repository design developments, including the design process which will lead to a complete license application design (1:15 p.m.).

H. DOE's Yucca Mountain Project Status—Representatives of DOE and USGS will provide a project status report on the current work and recent results obtained from site characterization being performed at the Yucca Mountain site and work performed at other related test facilities (3:15 p.m.).

I. ACNW Planning and Procedures—The Committee will hear a briefing from its staff on issues to be covered during future full Committee and Working Group sessions. The Committee will discuss ACNW-related activities of individual members.

J. Discussion and Comment—The ACNW members will listen to any comments and concerns from the public regarding the Yucca Mountain project.

Time has been set aside for this purpose prior to the lunch break (11:50 a.m.) and prior to adjournment (5:00 p.m.).

K. Preparation of ACNW Reports—The Committee will discuss planned reports on the following topics: a White Paper on Near-Field Chemistry issues, a joint ACRS/ACNW letter report on an NMSS approach to risk-informed, performance-based regulation in NMSS, and other topics discussed during this and previous meetings as the need arises (5:30 p.m.).

L. Miscellaneous—The Committee will discuss miscellaneous matters related to the conduct of Committee and organizational activities and complete discussion of matters and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACNW meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on September 29, 1998 (63 FR 51967). In accordance with these procedures, oral or written statements may be presented by members of the public, electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Committee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW, Dr. Richard P. Savio, as far in advance as practicable so that appropriate arrangements can be made to schedule the necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during this meeting will be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the ACNW Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for taking pictures may be obtained by contacting the Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW, prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACNW meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should notify Dr. Savio as to their particular needs.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor can be obtained by contacting Dr. Richard P. Savio, Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW (Telephone 301-415-7363), between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. EDT.

ACNW meeting notices, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are now available for downloading or review on the internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW>.

Dated: September 21, 1999.

Andrew L. Bates,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release Nos. 34-41897; File No. 265-21]

Advisory Committee on Technology; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This is to give notice that the Securities and Exchange Commission Advisory Committee on Technology will meet on October 6, 1999 in room 6600 at the Commission's main offices, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., beginning at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be closed to the public however, the public is invited to submit written comments to the Committee.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted in triplicate and should refer to File No. 265-21. Comments should be submitted to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Russell Horwitz, Committee Staff Director, at 202-942-0100; Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with section 10(a) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 10a, notice is hereby given that the Committee will meet on October 6, 1999 in room 6600 at the Commission's main offices, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., beginning at 1:00 pm. The meeting will be closed to the public.

The Committee has been formed to advise the Commission regarding how technological advances have impacted the markets, how market professionals and investors use technology to interact in our markets, and how the Commission's regulatory, examination, enforcement and internal programs and operations can more effectively use technology and respond to changes in technology.