

# Searching Web-based ADAMS and ADAMS PUBLIC: Tips and Tricks



# Tip #1: Citrix-based ADAMS is Gone

- Citrix-based ADAMS ceased operation on February 1, 2010

The screenshot shows the ADAMS Find application window. The title bar reads "ADAMS Find". The menu bar includes "File", "View", "Options", and "Help". There are two tabs: "Documents" (selected) and "Packages". The main search area contains several fields: "Look In:" with a dropdown menu set to "Public Legacy"; "Maximum Returned:" with a dropdown set to "10000"; "Accession Number:" with an empty text box; "Document Date:" with two date pickers (MM/DD/YYYY) and a "To" label; "Docket Number:" with a dropdown menu; "Author Name:" with a dropdown menu; "Case or Reference Number:" with a dropdown menu; "Title Contains:" with an empty text box; "Document Type:" with a dropdown menu; and "Document Text Contains:" with an empty text box. On the right side, there are two radio buttons for "Find Type": "Simple" (selected) and "Advanced". Below these are buttons for "Find Now", "Stop", "Find Count", "Clear Criteria", and "Previous". At the bottom of the search area, a note states: "Documents matching all entered criteria will be found (criteria are ANDed together)."



# Tip #1: Citrix-based ADAMS is Gone

- Its replacement is a Web-based interface known as ADAMS PUBLIC

The screenshot displays the ADAMS search interface. It features two main sections: "Property-based Criteria" and "Content-based Criteria".

**Property-based Criteria:** This section contains a list of search criteria with associated operators and input fields. A vertical bar on the left indicates the logical relationship between criteria, with "AND" visible between the "Date Added" and "Docket Number" rows. Each row includes a "like" operator and a text input field. Some rows also feature a small icon on the right.

Property	Operator	Input Field
Title	like	[ ]
Accession Number	like	[ ]
Addressee Affiliation	like	[ ]
Addressee Name	like	[ ]
Author Affiliation	like	[ ]
Author Name	like	[ ]
Case/Reference Number	like	[ ]
Date Added	is after	[ ]
Date Added	is before	[ ]
Docket Number	like	[ ]
Document Date	is after	[ ]
Document Date	is before	[ ]
Document Type	is equal to	[ ]
Document/Report Number	like	[ ]
License Number	like	[ ]
Package Number	like	[ ]

**Content-based Criteria:** This section includes an "Order" dropdown menu set to "Words any order", a "Words or Phrases" input field, and a "Range" input field set to "0". Below these is a "Maximum Results" field set to "300".



# Tip #2:

## There Are Still Two Versions of ADAMS

- Web-based ADAMS has been available for years

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's ADAMS Advanced Web Search page. The page features a navigation menu with links for Home, Who We Are, What We Do, Nuclear Reactors, Nuclear Materials, Radioactive Waste, Public Involvement, and Electronic Reading Room. Below the navigation menu, there is a search bar with a 'Search' button and a 'Clear' button. The search mode is set to 'Concept'. The search criteria section includes fields for Title, Accession Number (with example ML00011222), Addressee Affiliation (with a 'Select from Known Values...' dropdown), Addressee Name (with example Smith T E), Author Affiliation (with a 'Select from Known Values...' dropdown), Author Name (with example Smith T E), Case/Reference Number (with example ASLBP-97-732-02, EA-00-142, FOIA/PA-2000-0368), Date Added (with example DATE: mm/dd/yyyy or DATE RANGE: mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy), Docket Number (with example 03012304, 04003453, 05000320, 07000033), Document Date (with example DATE: mm/dd/yyyy or DATE RANGE: mm/dd/yyyy-mm/dd/yyyy), Document Type (with a 'Select from Known Values...' dropdown), Document/Report Number (with example LER 01-004-00, NUREG-0600, NUREG/CR-6733, PNO-III-00-013, SECY-01-0123), and License Number (with example 21-0133-02, NPF-87, SNM-1513, XMAT-0388). At the bottom, there are fields for 'Number of Docs to Retrieve' (set to 1000) and 'Number of Docs to Display' (set to 20), and a 'Sort' dropdown menu (set to Rank (Descending only)) with radio buttons for Ascending and Descending.



# Tip #2:

## There Are Still Two Versions of ADAMS

- Web-based ADAMS only provides access to the ADAMS Public (PARS) Library

The screenshot shows the 'ADAMS Advanced Web Search' page in a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser. The page header includes the NRC logo and navigation links like 'Home', 'Who We Are', and 'What We Do'. The main search area features a search box, a 'Filter With:' dropdown, and search mode options (Concept, Pattern, Boolean). Below this is a section titled 'Use these fields for Searching:' with various input fields for metadata such as Title, Accession Number, Addressee Affiliation, Author Name, Case/Reference Number, Date Added, Docket Number, Document Date, Document Type, Document/Report Number, and License Number. Each field has an example value. At the bottom, there are controls for 'Number of Docs to Retrieve' (set to 1000), 'Number of Docs to Display' (set to 20), and a 'Sort' dropdown menu (set to Rank (Descending only)) with radio buttons for 'Ascending' and 'Descending'.



# Tip #2:

## There Are Still Two Versions of ADAMS

- **ADAMS PUBLIC**, the replacement for Citrix-based ADAMS, has been available since February 1, 2010

The screenshot displays the search criteria interface for ADAMS. It is divided into two main sections: Property-based Criteria and Content-based Criteria.

**Property-based Criteria:** This section contains a list of search fields with their respective operators and input boxes. A vertical bar on the left indicates that all these criteria are connected by an AND operator.

Field	Operator	Input
Title	like	
Accession Number	like	
Addressee Affiliation	like	
Addressee Name	like	
Author Affiliation	like	
Author Name	like	
Case/Reference Number	like	
Date Added	is after	
Date Added	is before	
Docket Number	like	
Document Date	is after	
Document Date	is before	
Document Type	is equal to	
Document/Report Number	like	
License Number	like	
Package Number	like	

**Content-based Criteria:** This section allows for text-based searches. It includes a dropdown for 'Order' (set to 'Words any order'), a text input for 'Words or Phrases', and a text input for 'Range' (set to '0').

**Maximum Results:** A text input field set to '300'.



# Tip #2:

## There Are Still Two Versions of ADAMS

- **ADAMS PUBLIC** provides access to the ADAMS Public (PARS) Library and the ADAMS Legacy Library

The screenshot displays the ADAMS search interface. The top section is titled "Property-based Criteria" and contains a list of search fields with operators and input boxes. The fields include Title, Accession Number, Addressee Affiliation, Addressee Name, Author Affiliation, Author Name, Case/Reference Number, Date Added, Docket Number, Document Date, Document Type, Document/Report Number, License Number, and Package Number. The operators are "like", "is after", and "is before". A vertical bar on the left side of this section is labeled "AND". Below this section is the "Content-based Criteria" section, which includes an "Order" dropdown menu set to "Words any order", a "Words or Phrases" input box, and a "Range" input box set to "0". At the bottom of the interface, there is a "Maximum Results" field set to "300".

Property	Operator	Input
Title	like	
Accession Number	like	
Addressee Affiliation	like	
Addressee Name	like	
Author Affiliation	like	
Author Name	like	
Case/Reference Number	like	
Date Added	is after	
Date Added	is before	
Docket Number	like	
Document Date	is after	
Document Date	is before	
Document Type	is equal to	
Document/Report Number	like	
License Number	like	
Package Number	like	

**Content-based Criteria**

Order: Words any order | Words or Phrases: | Range: 0

Maximum Results: 300



# Tip #2:

## There Are Still Two Versions of ADAMS

■ The name “ADAMS PUBLIC” is an acronym:

◆ ADAMS  
PUBLIC/Legacy  
Interface  
Combined)

The screenshot displays the ADAMS search interface. It features two main sections: "Property-based Criteria" and "Content-based Criteria".

**Property-based Criteria:** This section contains a list of search criteria with associated operators and input fields. A vertical bar on the left indicates the logical relationship between criteria, with "AND" visible between the "Date Added" and "Docket Number" rows.

Property	Operator	Input Field
Title	like	<input type="text"/>
Accession Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Addressee Affiliation	like	<input type="text"/>
Addressee Name	like	<input type="text"/>
Author Affiliation	like	<input type="text"/>
Author Name	like	<input type="text"/>
Case/Reference Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Date Added	is after	<input type="text"/>
Date Added	is before	<input type="text"/>
Docket Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Document Date	is after	<input type="text"/>
Document Date	is before	<input type="text"/>
Document Type	is equal to	<input type="text"/>
Document/Report Number	like	<input type="text"/>
License Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Package Number	like	<input type="text"/>

**Content-based Criteria:** This section includes options for "Order" (Words any order), "Words or Phrases" (input field), and "Range" (input field with "0").

**Maximum Results:** 300



# Tip #3:

## ADAMS Public vs. ADAMS PUBLIC

- “ADAMS Public” (or PARS) refers to the library within ADAMS that provides PDF full-text documents
- Documents are usually dated November 1999 to present

The screenshot displays a search criteria window with two main sections: "Property-based Criteria" and "Content-based Criteria".

**Property-based Criteria:** This section contains a list of fields with search operators and input boxes. A vertical bar on the left indicates that all these criteria are connected by an "AND" operator.

Field	Operator	Input
Title	like	
Accession Number	like	
Addressee Affiliation	like	
Addressee Name	like	
Author Affiliation	like	
Author Name	like	
Case/Reference Number	like	
Date Added	is after	
Date Added	is before	
Docket Number	like	
Document Date	is after	
Document Date	is before	
Document Type	is equal to	
Document/Report Number	like	
License Number	like	
Package Number	like	

**Content-based Criteria:** This section includes an "Order" dropdown menu set to "Words any order", a "Words or Phrases" input field, and a "Range" input field set to "0".

**Maximum Results:** 300



# Tip #3:

## ADAMS Public vs. ADAMS PUBLIC

- “ADAMS PUBLIC” refers to the interface that replaced Citrix-based ADAMS in February 2010
- ADAMS PUBLIC provides access to both ADAMS libraries:

- ◆ ADAMS Public (PARS) (November 1999 to present)
- ◆ Legacy (pre-November 1999)

The screenshot displays a search criteria window with two main sections: "Property-based Criteria" and "Content-based Criteria".

**Property-based Criteria:** This section contains a list of fields with associated operators and input boxes. A vertical bar on the left indicates that all criteria are connected by an "AND" operator.

Field	Operator	Input
Title	like	
Accession Number	like	
Addressee Affiliation	like	
Addressee Name	like	
Author Affiliation	like	
Author Name	like	
Case/Reference Number	like	
Date Added	is after	
Date Added	is before	
Docket Number	like	
Document Date	is after	
Document Date	is before	
Document Type	is equal to	
Document/Report Number	like	
License Number	like	
Package Number	like	

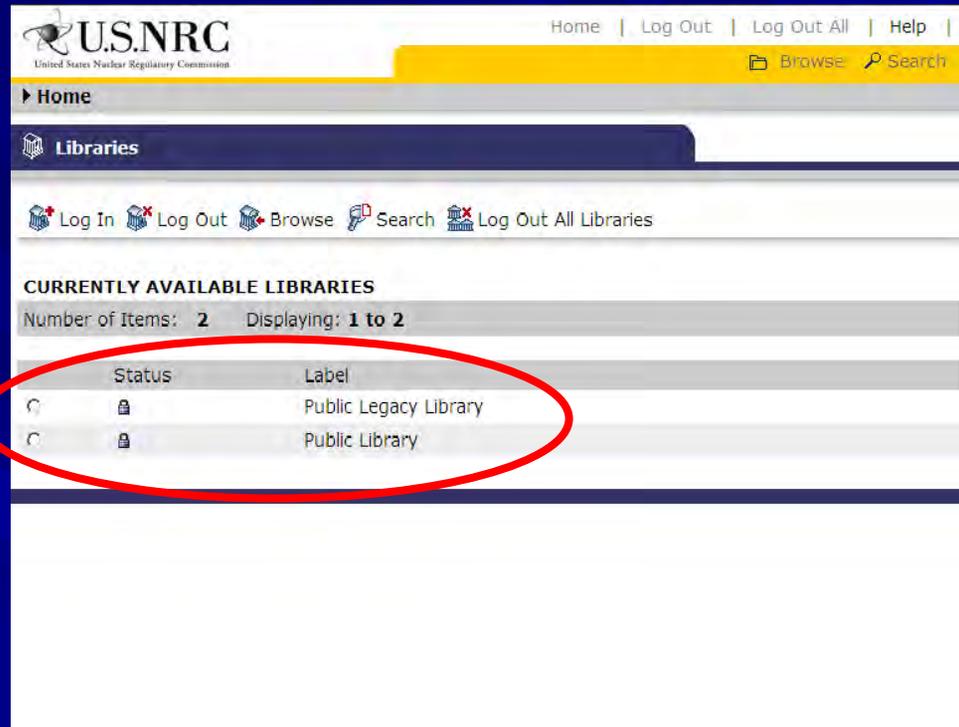
**Content-based Criteria:** This section includes an "Order" dropdown menu set to "Words any order", a "Words or Phrases" input field, and a "Range" input field set to "0". Below these is a "Maximum Results" field set to "300".



# Tip #4:

## ADAMS PUBLIC: Two Libraries, Two Searches

- ADAMS PUBLIC provides access to both ADAMS libraries (PARS and Legacy)
- Only one library – PARS or Legacy – can be searched at a time



The screenshot shows the U.S. NRC ADAMS Public interface. The header includes the U.S. NRC logo and navigation links: Home, Log Out, Log Out All, and Help. Below the header, there is a search bar and a 'Libraries' section. The 'Libraries' section contains a table of currently available libraries. The table has two columns: 'Status' and 'Label'. The first row shows a lock icon in the 'Status' column and 'Public Legacy Library' in the 'Label' column. The second row shows a lock icon in the 'Status' column and 'Public Library' in the 'Label' column. A red oval highlights the two rows of the table.

Status	Label
🔒	Public Legacy Library
🔒	Public Library

# Tip #5: Maximum Results

- ADAMS PUBLIC sets a default of 300 for maximum documents retrieved
- The number can be raised to 32,767 if needed

The screenshot displays the search criteria interface for ADAMS. It is divided into two main sections: 'Property-based Criteria' and 'Content-based Criteria'. The 'Property-based Criteria' section lists various fields such as Title, Accession Number, Addressee Affiliation, Addressee Name, Author Affiliation, Author Name, Case/Reference Number, Date Added, Docket Number, Document Date, Document Type, Document/Report Number, License Number, and Package Number. Each field has a search operator (like, is after, is before, is equal to) and a text input field. The 'Content-based Criteria' section includes an 'Order' dropdown menu, a 'Words or Phrases' input field, and a 'Range' input field. A red circle highlights the 'Maximum Results' field, which is currently set to 300.

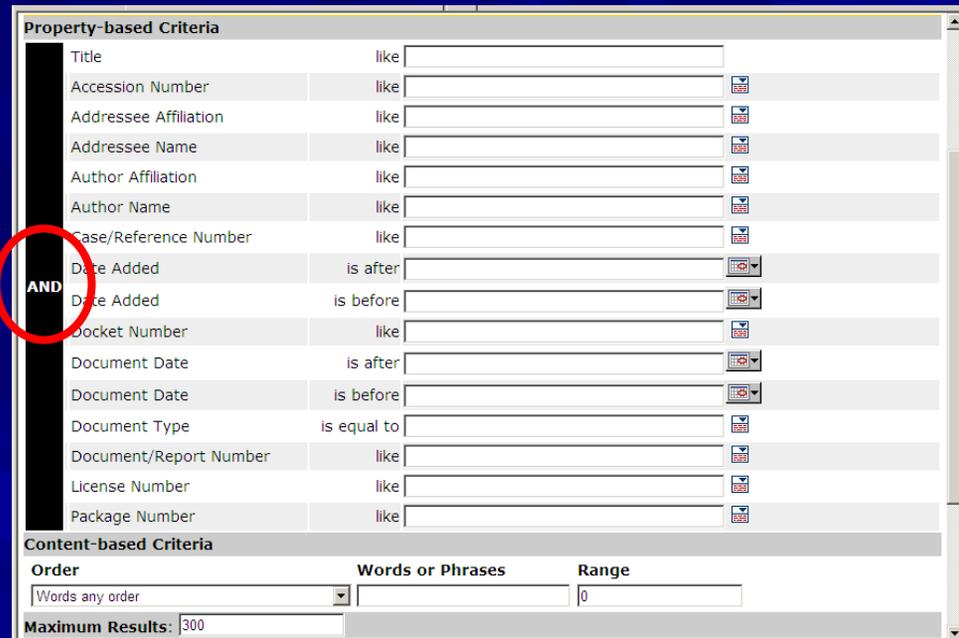
Property-based Criteria		
Title	like	<input type="text"/>
Accession Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Addressee Affiliation	like	<input type="text"/>
Addressee Name	like	<input type="text"/>
Author Affiliation	like	<input type="text"/>
Author Name	like	<input type="text"/>
Case/Reference Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Date Added	is after	<input type="text"/>
Date Added	is before	<input type="text"/>
Docket Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Document Date	is after	<input type="text"/>
Document Date	is before	<input type="text"/>
Document Type	is equal to	<input type="text"/>
Document/Report Number	like	<input type="text"/>
License Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Package Number	like	<input type="text"/>

Content-based Criteria		
Order	Words or Phrases	Range
Words any order	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Maximum Results:	<input type="text" value="300"/>	



# Tip #6: No Variety in Boolean Searching

- Unlike Citrix-based ADAMS, individual fields will always be ANDed together
- This may result in the need for multiple searches



The screenshot shows a search interface with two main sections: "Property-based Criteria" and "Content-based Criteria".

**Property-based Criteria:**

Field	Operator	Value
Title	like	
Accession Number	like	
Addressee Affiliation	like	
Addressee Name	like	
Author Affiliation	like	
Author Name	like	
Case/Reference Number	like	
Date Added	is after	
Date Added	is before	
Docket Number	like	
Document Date	is after	
Document Date	is before	
Document Type	is equal to	
Document/Report Number	like	
License Number	like	
Package Number	like	

**Content-based Criteria:**

Order: Words any order (dropdown)  
Words or Phrases: (text input)  
Range: 0 (text input)

Maximum Results: 300 (text input)

A red circle highlights the "AND" operator in the left column of the Property-based Criteria table.



# Tip #7:

## Document Date: Before and After

- Specify the *latest* and *earliest* dates to input a date range
- You may find using the Calendar Control an easier way to enter dates

The screenshot shows a search interface with two main sections: 'Property-based Criteria' and 'Content-based Criteria'. The 'Property-based Criteria' section contains a list of search fields with operators and input boxes. The 'Date Added' row is highlighted with a red oval, and the calendar icon for the 'Date Added' field is also circled in red. The 'Content-based Criteria' section includes fields for 'Order', 'Words or Phrases', and 'Range', and a 'Maximum Results' field set to 300.

Property	Operator	Input	Calendar Icon
Title	like		
Accession Number	like		
Addressee Affiliation	like		
Addressee Name	like		
Author Affiliation	like		
Author Name	like		
Case/Reference Number	like		
Date Added	is after		Calendar Icon
Date Added	is before		Calendar Icon
Document Number	like		
Document Date	is after		Calendar Icon
Document Date	is before		Calendar Icon
Document Type	is equal to		
Document/Report Number	like		
License Number	like		
Package Number	like		

**Content-based Criteria**

Order	Words or Phrases	Range
Words any order		0

Maximum Results: 300



# Tip #8: Don't Drop-Down

- Many of the drop-down menus are not yet functional
- Entering text directly into search boxes is the best way to search
- If you don't know the exact text, use an "\*" as a wildcard

The screenshot displays a search criteria interface with two main sections: 'Property-based Criteria' and 'Content-based Criteria'. The 'Property-based Criteria' section contains a table of search fields with operators and input boxes. The 'Content-based Criteria' section includes options for 'Order', 'Words or Phrases', and 'Range', along with a 'Maximum Results' field set to 300. A red circle highlights the 'AND' button next to the 'Author Affiliation' field in the 'Property-based Criteria' section.

Property	Operator	Input	Action
Title	like		
Accession Number	like		
Addressee Affiliation	like		
Addressee Name	like		
Author Affiliation	like		
Author Name	like		
Case/Reference Number	like		
Date Added	is after		
Date Added	is before		
Docket Number	like		
Document Date	is after		
Document Date	is before		
Document Type	is equal to		
Document/Report Number	like		
License Number	like		
Package Number	like		

**Content-based Criteria**

Order: Words any order | Words or Phrases: | Range: 0

Maximum Results: 300



# Tip #9: W\*LDCARDS

■ Use an “\*” as a wildcard before, after, or within search terms in the following fields:

- ◆ Title
- ◆ Accession Number
- ◆ Addressee Affiliation
- ◆ Addressee Name
- ◆ Author Affiliation
- ◆ Author Name
- ◆ Case/Reference Number

The screenshot shows a search interface with two main sections: "Property-based Criteria" and "Content-based Criteria".

**Property-based Criteria:** A table with columns for field name, operator, and search input. A vertical bar on the left indicates the logical operator "AND".

Field	Operator	Input
Title	like	
Accession Number	like	
Addressee Affiliation	like	
Addressee Name	like	
Author Affiliation	like	
Author Name	like	
Case/Reference Number	like	
Date Added	is after	
Date Added	is before	
Docket Number	like	
Document Date	is after	
Document Date	is before	
Document Type	is equal to	
Document/Report Number	like	
License Number	like	
Package Number	like	

**Content-based Criteria:** Includes an "Order" dropdown set to "Words any order", a "Words or Phrases" input field, and a "Range" input field set to "0". A "Maximum Results" field is set to "300".

- ◆ Docket Number
- ◆ Document/Report Number
- ◆ License Number
- ◆ Package Number



# Tip #10: No Pop-Ups = No ADAMS Reports

■ ADAMS PUBLIC  
can run reports of  
your search results

■ If your Web  
browser is set to  
not allow pop-ups,  
you will not be  
able to run reports

■ Accept pop-ups from <http://adamspublic.nrc.gov/>

The screenshot shows the 'Property-based Criteria' section of the ADAMS PUBLIC search interface. It features a list of search criteria with corresponding operators and input fields. The criteria include Title, Accession Number, Addressee Affiliation, Addressee Name, Author Affiliation, Author Name, Case/Reference Number, Date Added, Docket Number, Document Date, Document Type, Document/Report Number, License Number, and Package Number. The operators used are 'like', 'is after', and 'is before'. Below this section is the 'Content-based Criteria' section, which includes an 'Order' dropdown menu set to 'Words any order', a 'Words or Phrases' input field, a 'Range' input field set to '0', and a 'Maximum Results' input field set to '300'.

Property-based Criteria		
Title	like	<input type="text"/>
Accession Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Addressee Affiliation	like	<input type="text"/>
Addressee Name	like	<input type="text"/>
Author Affiliation	like	<input type="text"/>
Author Name	like	<input type="text"/>
Case/Reference Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Date Added	is after	<input type="text"/>
Date Added	is before	<input type="text"/>
Docket Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Document Date	is after	<input type="text"/>
Document Date	is before	<input type="text"/>
Document Type	is equal to	<input type="text"/>
Document/Report Number	like	<input type="text"/>
License Number	like	<input type="text"/>
Package Number	like	<input type="text"/>

**AND**

Content-based Criteria		
Order	Words or Phrases	Range
Words any order	<input type="text"/>	0
Maximum Results:	300	



# Tip #11:

## Consult the ADAMS PUBLIC User Guide

- The ADAMS PUBLIC User Guide is linked from the ADAMS PUBLIC Web page
- The ADAMS PUBLIC User Guide is in HTML format

Home > [Electronic Reading Room](#) > [ADAMS](#) > [ADAMS PUBLIC User Guide](#)

### ADAMS PUBLIC User Guide

On this page:

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  - [About the ADAMS PUBLIC User Guide](#)
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- [How to Log Out from ADAMS PUBLIC](#)
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# Tip #12:

## Contact the PDR for Additional Help

- Hours (walk-in)
  - ◆ 7:45am – 4:15pm  
Eastern Time  
Monday – Friday
- Hours (phone)
  - ◆ 8:00am – 4:00pm  
Eastern Time  
Monday – Friday
- Location
  - ◆ Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Public Document Room  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Room OWFN-1 F21  
Rockville, MD 20852



# Tip #12: Contact the PDR for Additional Help

## ■ Phone

◆ (301) 415-4737

◆ (800) 397-4209

## ■ E-mail

◆ [PDR.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:PDR.Resource@nrc.gov)

## ■ Web Page

◆ <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/pdr.html>

## ■ U.S. Mail

◆ Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Public Document Room  
Mail Stop: OWFN-1 F13  
Washington, DC 20555

