

MINUTES OF THE 111TH ACNW MEETING
JULY 19-21, 1999

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CERTIFIED

9/30/99

By B. JOHN GARRICK

Issued: 9/17/99

CERTIFIED MINUTES OF THE 111TH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE JULY 19-21, 1999 ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) held its 111th meeting on July 19-21, 1999, at Two White Flint North, Room T-2 B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. Notice of this meeting was published in the *Federal Register* on July 24, 1999, Volume 64, No. 134, pages 38020-38021 (Appendix I). The purpose of this meeting was to provide a forum for attendees to discuss and take appropriate action on the items listed in the agenda (Appendix II). The entire meeting was open to the public.

A transcript of selected portions of the meeting is available in the NRC's Public Document Room at the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20003-1527. Copies of the transcript are available for purchase from Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd., 1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW., Suite 1014, Washington, DC 20036. Transcripts are also available for downloading from, or reviewing on, the Internet <<http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW>>.

ATTENDEES

ACNW members who attended this meeting include Dr. B. John Garrick, ACNW Chairman, Dr. Charles Fairhurst, Dr. Raymond G. Wymer, and Dr. George M. Hornberger. For a list of other attendees, see Appendix III.

I. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (OPEN)

[Howard J. Larson was the Designated Federal Official for this portion of the meeting.]

Dr. B. John Garrick, Committee Chairman, convened the meeting at 8:33 a.m. and briefly reviewed the schedule for the meeting. He stated that the meeting was being conducted in conformance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. He asked members of the public who were present and had something to contribute to the meeting to inform the ACNW staff so that time could be allocated for them to make oral statements. He noted the following items he believed were of interest:

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- The following managerial assignments in the Office of State Programs and in the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS) were effective July 4, 1999.
 - Mr. Frederick Combs, currently Deputy Director of the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS, will become Deputy Director of the Office of State Programs.
 - Dr. Josephine Piccone, currently Acting Deputy Director of the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, NMSS, will become the Deputy Director of the Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS.
 - Mr. Michael Weber, who has served as the Executive Assistant and Director of the Office of the Chairman, will become Deputy Director of the Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, NMSS.
- A waste dump for low- and intermediate-level radioactive waste will be operational in South Australia's far north by 2001. According to Resources Minister Senator Nick Minchin, the site is for "all Australian, genuine dinky-di Aussie waste." He believes efforts by a U.S. resources company, Pangea Resources, to establish a dump for high-level overseas nuclear waste in Australia's outback are a waste of time.

II. RISK COMMUNICATION (OPEN)

[Lynn G. Deering was the Designated Federal Official for this portion of the meeting.]

John T. Larkins, Executive Director of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards and of the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACRS/ACNW), introduced the topic of risk communication. Dr. Larkins noted that the Committee needed to make several key decisions regarding the October 1999 ACNW meeting and its discussion of risk communication. He noted that Lynn Deering, ACNW staff member, would present all the options and decisions to the Committee.

Ms. Deering presented several options and issues requiring Committee input concerning details of the October 1999 public meeting. Options and issues were focused on details of how, when, and where the meeting will be conducted. Additional topics that were discussed include what is meant by the term "risk communication" and whether the Committee should attempt to communicate risks associated with Yucca Mountain (YM) or simply listen to the public's concerns. On the basis of these discussions, the Committee decided to hold a full-day working group meeting in Pahrump, Nevada, on the subject of safety assessment and the ACNW's role therein. In addition, the Committee agreed to hold an evening meeting with the public on topics

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of interest to the public, as well as on clarification of the ACNW's oversight role and its priorities. The Committee agreed that a continental breakfast meeting with the public would be a good idea to consider. Invited participants to the meeting may include representatives of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), NRC offices, the Department of Energy (DOE), affected units of local government, the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB), and others.

III. UPDATE ON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY DESIGN (OPEN)

[Andrew C. Campbell was the Designated Federal Official for this portion of the meeting.]

A. License Application Design Selection Process

Mr. Paul Harrington, design lead for the DOE on the YM Project, gave an overview on DOE's license application design selection (LADS) process. He discussed the review of enhanced alternative design (EDA) by the Management and Operations (M&O) contractor. The EDA-II design was selected and a report was submitted to DOE for review. He described the LADS process as a comprehensive assessment of alternative designs and noted that DOE wanted to look at a variety of designs and approaches to find out whether these design changes could reduce uncertainty. He added that alternative designs are also required by NRC regulations. He said that the review followed on viability assessment (VA) design but was not constrained to VA alternatives and features. In response to some questions raised by ACNW members, Mr. Harrington said that the NWTRB accepted DOE's alternative designs but did not agree with the design selected and that the NWTRB prefers a lower temperature design. He also described a variety of alternatives considered and said that there would be further discussion with the NWTRB.

Mr. Harrington discussed the process followed by the license application design integration group (LADIG). In terms of the process followed, he said that LADIG described alternatives and selected a preferred one. He differentiated between "design alternatives" (DAs) and "design features" (DFs) and described the two-phase process followed by the LADIG in developing the recommended design. In answer to a question, Mr. Harrington noted that one of the main differences of the EDAs was the projected thermal loads. There was also a discussion on postclosure ventilation to remove heat and moisture by circulating air through the drift. He also discussed the design alternative and associated design features that were considered. In answer to a question, he said that Richards barrier designs were being tested to evaluate this DF. Concern was expressed about the consideration of material emplacement issues and costs, for example, using drip shields. He noted that one reason for downgrading EDA-I design was insufficient area to hold all the anticipated waste. Mr. Harrington added that the Phase I evaluations were based on criteria for both DAs and DFs.

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In response to another question, he said that there was little difference in dose within 10,000 years for the different designs. The EDA Phase II design alternatives (two low-temperature designs, two high-temperature designs, and two enhanced access designs) were presented to a workshop in January 1999. Mr. Harrington discussed with two Committee members the thermal impacts of the different design alternatives in terms of the size of the region in which temperatures exceed the boiling point of water. Mr. Harrington described differences in radiation dose for different EDAs. He discussed different alternatives, such as waste package designs and common features of the EDAs. He noted that a key constraint on the designs considered was the desire to protect cladding by keeping its temperature below 350°C. He said that taking credit for cladding in a performance assessment is controversial but that there was no reason to damage it if it could be avoided. The different EDAs are also intended to allow access (by humans) to the drifts for off-normal events (e.g., repairing rockfall damage). The time period that may be allotted to preclosure activities was also discussed. In summary, Mr. Harrington said that all the alternative designs have "defense in depth," which he defined as having a number of separate features to help isolate waste. He noted that the EDA evaluation did not include a multi-attribute utility analysis, but it did provide a forum for consistent information and engineering judgments and a basis for pair-wise comparisons. In this approach, numerical scores have no quantitative meaning.

Mr. Harrington discussed the following issues in the question-and-answer session: impacts of different designs on a phased licensing process, coordination of the LADS process with development of DOE's draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the YM repository, the ease of analyzing a cooler design, concerns with the LADS ranking process and results, worker exposure in each design, thermal loading in the repository, the cooling effects of ventilation, and water movement under boiling conditions.

B. EDA-II Design

Mr. Richard Snell, M&O contractor, presented information on the EDA-II design selected under the LADS process. He said that he would describe the main features of EDA-II, including maintaining temperatures below the boiling point between the drifts, line loading of casks in the drifts, and blending fuels with different thermal potential to maintain a constant temperature at the drift center line. He also discussed the new waste package design with 2 cm of alloy-22 for the outer layer and 5 cm stainless steel for the inner layer. In this design, "oxide wedging" would be much less of an issue since stainless steel has less potential for wedging than carbon steel, which was proposed for the previous design. He also discussed the thermal hydrology calculation. He said that backfill over the drip shields would provide consistency for degradation environments and scenarios. Concrete was eliminated from the ground support and invert to avoid large pH increases and the "ballast" (i.e., filler material) between invert steel beams, which can be tailored to have certain physical and chemical properties.

Mr. Snell was asked if the large drift diameter was designed to allow waste retrieval. He replied that the drift diameter was selected generally for excavation purposes and backfilling. The M&O

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contractor did not have retrieval in mind when evaluating the 5.5-m drift diameters. Mr. Snell compared EDA-II to the VA design and discussed advantages of EDA-II. In answer to a question, he noted that the larger diameter circle in the cross section represented waste packages (WPs) for defense high-level waste (HLW) and glass. In answer to another question, Mr. Snell acknowledged a shorter time period for the EDA analyses compared to the VA. He said that the LADS process benefitted from the VA analyses and that much of the VA design analyses still applied to the EDAs because there are many features retained from the VA design. Most of the changes in the total system performance assessment models were input assumptions. He added that the M&O does not have enough "fidelity" in the models to clearly distinguish all the changes in EDA features relative to the VA (such as replacing concrete with steel). Asked if blending requires a large surface storage facility, Mr. Snell said that he did not have a good answer at this time, but that blending may require some further acres for storage. He also discussed further design refinements of EDA-II. In closing, Mr. Snell answered other questions on a variety of subjects. Regarding fuel blending, he said that his company has little control over what waste is shipped to it, but some blending might be performed when loading casks at the power plants. Regarding vertical emplacements of WPs in boreholes, he noted that degraded fuel could lead to criticality in such a configuration and would require a larger number of smaller WPs. Regarding the impacts of concrete materials on pH, Mr. Snell said that high uncertainty in pH control was a key concern and that the use of "shotcrete" was probably ruled out because of this concern.

There were also some questions from the NRC staff. Regarding documentation of heat removal by ventilation, Mr. Snell said his company would provide the documentation. Regarding the selection of backfill and chemical buffering effects, Mr. Snell said that his company is looking at any materials that might be suitable, including materials such as limestone to buffer the pH. With regard to finalizing the design for license application review, Mr. Harrington said that DOE is scheduled to finalize the design by November 1999 and to provide input for the site recommendation report by April 2000.

IV. SPENT FUEL PROJECT OFFICE BRIEFING (OPEN)

[Howard J. Larson was the Designated Federal Official for this part of the meeting.]

Mr. William Brach, Director of the Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO), assisted by Deputy Directors Susan Shankman and Wayne Hodges, provided an overview of recent SFPO activities. Included in the presentation was a discussion of the recently completed SFPO reorganization, as well as current and future SFPO casework, interactions with the public and stakeholders, and transportation and technical issues.

The status of approvals for dual-purpose, storage-only, and transportation-only cask designs was discussed, as were several completed independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) licenses; namely, the Fort St. Vrain fuel storage facility license transfer to DOE; a DOE Three Mile Island Unit 2 fuel debris storage facility at Idaho National Engineering Laboratory; and the

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Trojan commercial reactor spent fuel storage facility. Mr. Brach also discussed several other spent fuel storage facilities in various stages of conception or review, such as a potential independent spent fuel storage installation at the Rancho Seco nuclear power plant, a proposed storage facility for Shippingport fuel at DOE Idaho facilities, a proposed commercial spent nuclear fuel facility in Utah—Private Fuel Storage; and a facility in Idaho for spent naval reactor fuel.

SFPO management noted particularly its communications plan and the seven interactive meetings held in the last year with industry, for example, the Nuclear Energy Institute, the American Nuclear Society, and others. Mr. Brach also explained SFPO's multiple current activities with the DOE and Naval Reactors groups.

Ms. Shankman clarified for the Committee the roles of the Department of Transportation (DOT) and NRC with regard to transportation regulations. DOT is the agency that handles all modes of shipment for hazardous materials (including radioactive materials), whereas the NRC has a complementary role spelled out in an interagency memorandum of understanding. NRC is to act as a technical consultant to DOT on Type B packages (which are to be "accident resistant"). NRC's responsibility for Type A packages is much lighter. In its capacity as consultant to DOT, NRC will (1) inspect the fabricators, (2) inspect the casks, and (3) enforce the rules.

Ms. Shankman discussed the current effort to revise 10 CFR Part 71, stating that one reason for this effort is the need to bring U.S. regulations into compatibility with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) by 2002. She noted that IAEA rules are deterministic, although there is a requirement that all future changes to the rules must have a risk statement.

The Committee was particularly interested in the update to NUREG-0170, "Final Environmental Statement on the Transportation of Radioactive Material by Air and Other Modes," and the progress on Modal Study H. Considerable discussion was held on the role of the DOT as the "competent" authority in the United States. Ms. Shankman noted that in reviewing the severe accident data for rail and highway shipments, it was concluded that in 99.4 percent of the accidents the cask would survive. The role of "other than" Federal agencies in the regulation of spent fuel transportation was also discussed. Ms. Shankman revealed that as indicated in a DOT study, at any given moment in the United States there are approximately 170,000 hazardous shipments. Another statistic is that it has been estimated that there are approximately 3 million shipments of radioactive materials in any one year, a number the medical community has contested as being perhaps low by an order of magnitude.

The use of interim staff guidance (ISG) documents to provide early issue resolution and closure was discussed. Several of the 12 ISGs issued during the past year were noted. In response to a question as to why the ISGs were not using a risk-informed, performance-based (RIPB) approach, Mr. Brach indicated that their issuance was recognized as an initial step and the longer term intention of the SFPO is to closely follow the development and implementation of RIPB regulation by NMSS.

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Dr. Wymer asked about the considerations being given by SFPO to the shipment of mixed-oxide (MOX) fuel by DOE. Mr. Brach responded that it is understood that DOE will handle all aspects of MOX fuel transport.

Another question was posed as to the effect of potential blending of fuel at YM (to be able to predict the heat flux distribution), particularly with regard to whether SFPO intended to review DOE's fuel-handling practices at YM. Mr. Brach stated that the SFPO was not in favor of extra handling and would follow DOE's plans in that regard. He trusted that the SFPO would be creative in addressing that possible concern. He also offered to brief the Committee more frequently; particularly in light of the interest in transportation issues related to the proposed repository at YM. His offer was accepted.

**V. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY PRESENTATION ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY**

[Howard J. Larson was the Designated Federal Official for this part of the meeting.]

Ms. Wendy Dixon, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Project Manager, DOE, gave a background overview on the DEIS currently being finalized by DOE. Included in her presentation was a discussion of the relationship and impact of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Waste Policy Act (NWPA), as well as the role of various local, state, and Federal agencies. The Council on Environmental Quality is responsible for issuing NEPA regulations and guidance and for moderating interagency disputes. EPA is required to review and rate the adequacy of all DEISs prepared by other agencies. Ms. Dixon noted that the responsibility for determining the adequacy of an EIS rests with the courts and that over the years a substantial body of NEPA case law to determine whether an EIS is adequate has developed.

DOE has held numerous meetings with State, county, and Federal agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Air Force (because of proximity of the Nellis bombing range), the Navy (spent naval reactor fuel destined for YM), the relevant counties, the State of Nevada, and Indian tribes. She explained the various types of previous involvements and the projected involvement envisioned for the YM DEIS/EIS.

Ms. Dixon discussed the proposed action (construction, operation, monitoring, and closure of a geologic repository at YM) and the "no-action" alternative (no development of a geologic repository at YM).

Ms. Dixon noted that the NWPA, in addressing the NEPA requirements for the repository, specified that it was not necessary to consider in the EIS the need for a repository, alternatives to geologic disposal, or alternative sites to YM. In her presentation, she discussed the following topics in varying degrees of detail:

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- national transportation scenarios (from 72 commercial sites and 5 DOE sites, with two means of transport—mostly legal weight truck or mostly rail).
- the current preliminary design concept as well as alternative design concepts under consideration. In addition, there were two inventory modules: 70,000 MTU, plus all other remaining spent nuclear fuel and HLW from commercial or DOE sources, and the 70,000-MTU module, plus commercial greater-than-Class-C and DOE "special performance assessment required" waste.
- short-term environmental impacts (i.e., biology, culture, noise, aesthetics, land use and ownership, air and climate, socioeconomic issues, and environmental justice).
- long-term impacts (dose and the probability of a latent cancer fatality at four locations: distances of 5, 20, 30, and 80 kilometers from the repository).
- cumulative impacts (i.e., the resultant impact, when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions).

Ms. Dixon ended her presentation by discussing the size of the DEIS (15 chapters, 600 pages in Volume I, and 900 pages in the 12 appendices in Volume 2), the current tentative schedule for public hearings, and the time line of related events. This, she perceived, meant that the proposed time line and the dates for the 14 scheduled hearings should be very close to the dates provided in her presentation. The major current scheduling uncertainty was the length of the comment period. It was intended that the comment period be in effect for 90 days after issuance, but the State of Nevada has requested a longer time frame, 180 days. It is understood that the basis for the 90-day period is that it is consistent with the current overall project schedule for license application submission. The Committee was most pleased to hear that the DEIS had just been released for printing.

The Committee was particularly interested in the process to be followed and what impact should be expected if the design continued to change (and how those changes would be reflected in determining the ability of the NRC to "adopt" the DEIS). The Committee was also interested in the amount of interchange between the DOE and NRC staffs.

The Committee noted that the NRC staff has scheduled a briefing for the Committee at its 112th meeting (September 14-16, 1999) and that DOE is scheduled to brief the Committee on comments received in its public meetings during the 113th meeting of the ACNW. (Both briefings were delayed because the comment period was extended from 90 to 180 days.) Committee members indicated their intention to attend at least one of the DOE public comment meetings. The Committee plans to integrate closely with the NRC staff with regard to commenting on the DEIS, once the document is publicly available.

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VI. DISCUSSION OF THE POTENTIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE CONTRIBUTION TO AGENCY COMMENTS ON THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR YUCCA MOUNTAIN (OPEN)

[Howard J. Larson was the Designated Federal Official for this part of the meeting.]

The Committee discussed a range of possible comments on DOE's proposed DEIS for YM. The nature and extent of the comments are uncertain because DOE has yet to publish the DEIS and the length of the comment period is currently unresolved.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (OPEN)

[Howard J. Larson was the Designated Federal Official for this part of the meeting.]

A. Future Meeting Agenda (Open)

Appendix IV summarizes the proposed items endorsed by the Committee for the 112th ACNW meeting on September 14-15, 1999.

B. Future Committee Activities (Open)

The 113th ACNW meeting is scheduled for October 12-14, 1999, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546-0001, 202/358-4461.

JPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the room. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Discuss the IOR Task Force—Utkin Advisory Expert Council's Joint Final Report on the ISS Phase 1 program.
- Review the status of the fact-finding meetings conducted by the IOR Task Force and the Utkin Advisory Expert Council held May 24-28, 1999, at the Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

It is imperative that the meeting be held on these dates to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitors register.

Dated: July 8, 1999.

Matthew M. Crouch,
Advisory Committee Management Officer,
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration.

[FR Doc. 99-17967 Filed 7-13-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7510-01-P

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

Advisory Committee Meeting/ Conference Call

AGENCY: National Council on Disability (NCD).

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule of the forthcoming meeting/conference call for NCD's advisory committee—International Watch. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(1)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463).

INTERNATIONAL WATCH: The purpose of NCD's International Watch is to share information on international disability issues and to advise NCD's International Committee on developing policy proposals that will advocate for a foreign policy that is consistent with the values and goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

DATES: September 15, 1999, 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. edt.

FOR INTERNATIONAL WATCH INFORMATION, CONTACT: Lois T. Keck, Ph.D., Research Specialist, National Council on Disability, 1331 F Street NW, Suite 1050, Washington, DC 20004; 202-272-2004 (Voice), 202-272-2074 (TTY), 202-272-2022 (Fax), lkeck@ncd.gov (e-mail).

Agency Mission

The National Council on Disability is an independent federal agency composed of 15 members appointed by

the President of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Its overall purpose is to promote policies, programs, practices, and procedures that guarantee equal opportunity for all people with disabilities, regardless of the nature of severity of the disability; and to empower people with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society.

This committee is necessary to provide advice and recommendations to NCD on international disability issues.

We currently have balanced membership representing a variety of disabling conditions from across the United States.

Open Meeting/Conference Call

This advisory committee meeting/conference call of the National Council on Disability will be open to the public. However, due to fiscal constraints and staff limitations, a limited number of additional lines will be available. Individuals can also participate in the conference call at the NCD office. Those interested in joining this conference call should contact the appropriate staff member listed above.

Records will be kept of all International Watch meetings/conference calls and will be available after the meeting for public inspection at the National Council on Disability.

Signed in Washington, DC, on July 7, 1999.

Ethel D. Briggs,
Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 99-17951 Filed 7-13-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9220-MA-M

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company

[Docket No. 50-346]

Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted a request by FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company (the licensee) to withdraw its September 29, 1995, application for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-3, issued to the licensee for operation of the Davis-Besse, Unit No. 1, located in Ottawa County, Ohio. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the Federal Register on November 27, 1995 (60 FR 58405).

The purpose of the licensee's amendment request was to revise the Technical Specifications to increase the allowable as-found pressure lift setting tolerance of the two Pressurizer Code Safety Valves.

By letter dated June 7, 1999, the licensee informed the staff that it was withdrawing the license amendment application for further evaluation.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated September 29, 1995, and the letter withdrawing the application dated June 7, 1999. These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC and at the University of Toledo, William Carlson Library, Government Documents Collection, 2801 West Bancroft Avenue, Toledo, OH 43606.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of July 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Stewart N. Bailey,
Project Manager, Section 2, Project
Directorate III, Division of Licensing Project
Management.

[FR Doc. 99-17920 Filed 7-13-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 111th meeting on July 19-21, 1999, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

Monday, July 19, 1999—8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 20, 1999—8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 21, 1999—8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The following topics will be discussed:

A. ACNW Planning and Procedures—The Committee will hear a briefing from its staff on issues to be covered during this meeting. The Committee will also consider topics proposed for future consideration by the full Committee and Working Groups. The Committee will discuss ACNW-related activities of individual members.

B. Risk Communications—The Committee will continue to prepare for sessions with the local stakeholders to

be held this fall in the Las Vegas, Nevada, area.

C. Revised Design for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Repository—Representatives from the Department of Energy and its contractor will discuss the license application design selection process and describe the current final revised repository design.

D. Results of the Arthur Andersen Review of the Division of Waste Management Activities—The Deputy Director, NMSS, will discuss the results of recent strategic planning activities within the Division of Waste Management and potential impacts on ACNW activities.

E. DOE Presentation on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Repository—A DOE representative will discuss the scope of the DEIS and the review process, providing additional background information for the Committee's future comments once the document is made public.

F. Spent Fuel Project Office (SFPO) Briefing—A representative of the SFPO will present an update and overview of their activities. Also to be discussed is the relationship of current spent fuel transportation study initiatives to sites such as Yucca Mountain and the Private Fuel Storage facility.

G. Preparation of ACNW Reports—The Committee will discuss planned reports on the following topics: a White Paper on Repository Design Issues at Yucca Mountain, 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.

H. Meeting with the Director, Division of Waste Management—The Committee will meet with the Director informally to discuss items of mutual interest.

I. Miscellaneous—The Committee will discuss miscellaneous matters related to the conduct of Committee activities 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 reviewing on the internet at <http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW>.

Videoteleconferencing service is available for observing open sessions of ACNW meetings. Those wishing to use this service for observing ACNW meetings should contact Mr. Theron Brown, ACNW Audiovisual Technician (301-415-8066), between 7:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. EDT at least 10 days before the meeting to ensure the availability of this service. Individuals or organizations requesting this service will be responsible for telephone line charges and for providing the equipment and facilities that they use to establish the videoteleconferencing link. The availability of videoteleconferencing services is not guaranteed.

Dated: July 7, 1999.

Andrew L. Bates,
Advisory Committee Management Officer.
[FR Doc. 99-17973 Filed 7-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7550-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Meeting Notice

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DATES: Weeks of July 12, 19, 26, and August 2, 1999.

PLACE: Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of July 12

Tuesday, July 13

9:30 a.m. Briefing on Treatment of Existing Programs for License Renewal (Public Meeting) (Contact Sam Lee, 301-415-3109)

Thursday, July 15

10:00 a.m. Briefing on Existing Event Response Procedures (Including Federal Response Plan and Coordination of Federal Agencies in Response to Terrorist Activities) (Public Meeting) (Contact Charlie Miller, 301-415-7482)

11:30 a.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (If needed)

Week of July 19—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of July 19.

Week of July 26—Tentative

Thursday, July 29

2:00 p.m. Briefing on Implementation of the License Termination Rule and Program on Complex Decommissioning Cases (Public Meeting) (Contact: Larry Camper, 301-415-7234)

Friday, July 30

9:30 a.m. Briefing on Performance Assessment Progress in LLW, HLW, and SDMP (Public Meeting) (Contact: Norman Eisenberg, 301-415-7285)

Week of August 2—Tentative

Thursday, August 5

10:00 a.m. Briefing on EEO Program (Public Meeting)

3:30 p.m. Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (If needed)

The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Bill Hill (301) 415-1661.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: By a vote of 4-0 on July 7, the Commission determined

APPENDIX III: MEETING ATTENDEES

111TH ACNW MEETING
JULY 19-21, 1999

ACNW STAFF

Dr. Andrew Campbell
Ms. Lynn Deering
Ms. Michele Kelton
Dr. John Larkins
Mr. Howard Larson
Dr. Richard Savio

ATTENDEES FROM THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

July 19, 1999

R. Johnson	NMSS
J. Kotra	NMSS
J. Mitchell	EDO
P. Eng	NMSS
R. Lewis	NMSS
B. Leslie	NMSS

ATTENDEES FROM THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

JULY 20, 1999

B. Leslie	NMSS
M. Nataraja	NMSS
B. Jagannath	NMSS
P. Reed	RES

JUNE 21, 1999

M. W. Hodges	NMSS
C. Bajwa	NMSS
E. Leeds	NMSS
S. Colpo	NMSS
I. Spivack	NMSS
P. Eng	NMSS
M. Morgan	NMSS
R. Lewis	NMSS
E. Easton	NMSS
L. Kokajko	NMSS

ATTENDEES FROM THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (CONT'D)

JUNE 21, 1999 (cont'd)

T. McGinty	NMSS
R. Johnson	NMSS
S. Flanders	NMSS
J. Firth	NMSS
C. Abrams	NMSS
M. Lee	NMSS
B. Reamer	NMSS
B. Leslie	NMSS
B. Ibrahim	NMSS
M. Nataraja	NMSS
P. Justus	NMSS
K. Stablein	NMSS
D. Dancer	NMSS
D. Brooks	NMSS
B. Jagannath	NMSS
E. Wolff	NMSS

ATTENDEES FROM OTHER AGENCIES AND GENERAL PUBLIC

JULY 19, 1999

R. Wallace	USGS
M. Scott	DOE
C. Hanlon	DOE
J. Russell	CNWRA
R. Andersen	NEI

JULY 20, 1999

M. David	Sciencetech, Inc
K. Singh	PA
J. Russell	
E. Scalsky	The Environmental Co.
M. Scott	DOE
C. Hanlon	DOE
R. Wallace	USGS
P. Harrington	DOE
T. Cotton	J. K. Research
R. Snell	YMP/M&O
G. Roseboom	USGS (Retired)

ATTENDEES FROM OTHER AGENCIES AND GENERAL PUBLIC (CONT'D)

JULY 21, 1999

E. Scalsky	The Environmental Co.
R. Wallace, Jr.	USGS/ HQ
M. Scott	DOE/CRWMS
K. Singh	PA
M. David	Scientech, Inc.
E. Wieser	Business Publishers
A. Wyche	Serch Licensing/ Bechtel
C. Hanlon	DOE
S. Maheras	DOE
E. Rollins	DOE
P. LaPlante	CNWRA
P. C. Mackin	CNWRA
R. McCullen	NEI
J. Russell	CNWRA
T. Batt	Las Vegas Review Journal



APPENDIX II
UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

Revised: July 19, 1999

SCHEDULE AND OUTLINE FOR DISCUSSION
111TH ACNW MEETING
JULY 19-21, 1999

Monday, July 19, 1999, Conference Room 2B3, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland

- 8:33
1) ~~8:30~~ - 8:40 A.M. Opening Statement (BJG/HJL)
The Chairman will open the meeting with brief opening remarks, outline the topics to be discussed and indicate several items of interest
- 8:33
2) ~~8:40~~ - 12:00 NOON ACNW Planning and Procedures (Open) (BJG/HJL)
2.1) Preview issues for 111th ACNW meeting
2.2) Finalize agenda for 112th ACNW meeting, September 14-16, 1999
2.3) Discuss topics for out months: October, November
2.4) Review Commission and/or EDO responses to Committee letters
- ~~10:30~~ - 10:45 A.M. *****BREAK*****
10:10 - 10:30
2.5) Recent and planned attendance at outside meetings
2.6) Reports on Member-CNWRA individual technical interactions
- 12:10 P.M. 1:05
12:00 Noon - 1:00 P.M. *****LUNCH*****
- 3) ~~1:00~~ - 3:00 P.M. Risk Communication (Open) (BJG/LGD)
1:05 2:50
The ACNW will discuss plans for improving its risk communication ability and the proposed Nevada public outreach sessions. To be discussed:
a) September training
b) Organization of public outreach sessions (participants, topics, format, etc.)
- ~~3:00~~ - 3:15 P.M. *****BREAK*****

4) ~~3:15 - 6:00 P.M.~~
2:50

Preparation of ACNW Reports (Open)

Discuss a possible report on the following topics:

- 4.1) White paper on Repository Design (CF/LGD)
- 4.2) White paper on Near-field Chemistry Considerations (RGW/ACC)
- 4.3) Report on Joint ACRS/ACNW Committee on NMSS approach to RIPBR (BJG/ACC)
- 4.4) Future Resource Associates (R. J. Budnitz) June 25, 1999 letter to B. J. Garrick

2:50
~~6:00 P.M.~~

RECESS

Tuesday, July 20, 1999, Conference Room 2B3, Two White Flint North, Rockville,

Maryland 8:30 - 8:35 - Opening statement
8:35 - 8:54 - Meeting with L. Camper, Chief, Decommissioning Branch, NMSS

8:30 - 12:00 NOON Continue preparation of ACNW reports (Open)
8:54 -

~~10:30 - 10:45 A.M.~~ ***BREAK***

10:00 - 10:15

12:00 - 1:00 P.M. ***LUNCH***

✓ 5) 1:00 - 3:30 P.M.

Update on DOE Yucca Mountain Repository Design (Open)
(CF/ACC)

The current DOE design for the site recommendation (SR) and license application (LA) will be discussed. To be discussed:

- 5.1) The License Application Design Selection (LADS) Process - Paul Harrington, DOE
- 5.2) The Revised Repository Design for the SR/LA - M&O Designee

3:30 - 3:45 P.M. ***BREAK***

5:25
3:45 - 5:30 P.M. Technical interactions, letter report finalization, et al (Open)

~~5:30 P.M.~~ ***Recess***
5:25

Wednesday, July 21, 1999, Conference Room 2B3, Two White Flint North, Rockville,

Maryland 8:33 Opening Statement

6) ~~8:30 - 10:30 A.M.~~
8:35 10:05

Spent Fuel Projects Office, (SFPO) Briefing (Open) (RGW/HJL)
In addition to providing an update and overview of their activities, the following topics are to be discussed:

- 6.1) Completed NRC licensee casework and casework in progress (including dual purpose cask designs)
- 6.2) SFPO DOE-related casework
- 6.3) Transportation studies
- 6.4) Other items of interest (including significant rulemakings)

10:05 10:25

~~10:30 - 10:45 A.M.~~ ***BREAK***

- 7) ~~10:45 - 12:30 P.M.~~ DOE presentation on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Yucca Mountain Repository (Open)
 10:25 11:25 (GMH/HJL)

The cognizant DOE engineer will discuss the scope of the DEIS and the currently planned review process W. Dixon

11:25 - 11:30

~~12:30 - 1:30 P.M.~~ BREAK
LUNCH

12:15 - 1:15

- 8) ~~1:30 - 2:30 P.M.~~ Discuss potential ACNW contribution to agency comments on DOE's DEIS for Yucca Mountain (Open) (GMH/HJL)
 2:12 - 2:35

11:30 2:12

~~2:30 - 4:00 P.M.~~ Continue preparation of ACNW reports (Open)

2:37

~~4:00 P.M.~~ ADJOURN

NOTE:

- Presentation time should not exceed 50 percent of the total time allocated for a specific item. The remaining 50 percent of the time is reserved for discussion.
- Number of copies of the presentation materials to be provided to the ACNW - 35.
- All agenda item discussions are OPEN.

APPENDIX IV: FUTURE AGENDA

The Committee agreed to consider the following during the 112th ACNW Meeting, September 14-16, 1999:

- **ACNW Planning and Procedures** — The Committee will be briefed by its staff on issues to be covered during this meeting. The Committee will also consider topics proposed for future consideration by the full Committee and Working Groups. The Committee will also discuss ACNW-related activities of individual members.
- **Risk Communications** — The Committee will continue to prepare for sessions with the local stakeholders to be held this fall (1999) in the Las Vegas, Nevada, area.
- **Results of the Arthur Andersen Review of the Activities of the Division of Waste Management** — The Deputy Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards (NMSS), will discuss the results of the Arthur Andersen review of recent strategic planning activities within the Division of Waste Management and their potential impacts on ACNW activities.
- **Progress Report on Waste Management Research Program Plan** — Representatives from the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research (RES) will present RES's plan to the Committee, which RES believes is consistent with the recommendations in NUREG-1635, the most recent joint ACRS/ACNW report on NRC research activities.
- **Decommissioning Standard Review Plan and Dose Modeling** — Representatives from NMSS will provide a scheduled update of NMSS's progress in this area. Included will be a discussion of the draft standard review plan modules and the status of dose models.
- **Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Fiscal Year 2000 Budget and Operating Plan Overview** — NMSS managers will present an overview of their priorities as defined by available resources for Fiscal Year 2000.
- **Preparation of ACNW Reports** — The Committee will discuss planned reports, including 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.
- **Meeting with the Director, Division of Waste Management** — The Committee will meet with the Director informally to discuss items of mutual interest.
- **Preparation of ACNW Reports** — The Committee will discuss planned reports, including risk-informed, performance-based regulation; waste-related research; regulatory guides dealing with decommissioning; and other topics discussed during this and previous meetings.

**APPENDIX V
LIST OF DOCUMENTS PROVIDED TO THE COMMITTEE**

[Note: Some documents listed below may have been provided or prepared for Committee use only. These documents must be reviewed prior to release to the public.]

MEETING HANDOUTS

**AGENDA
ITEM NO.**

DOCUMENTS

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 2 | <u>ACNW Planning and Procedures</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review Commission and/or EDO Responses to Committee Letters, provided H. Larson, ACNW staff [Handout] |
| 5 | <u>Update on DOE Yucca Mountain Repository Design</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. License Application Design Selection (LADS) Overview and Process, presented by P. Harrington, DOE, July 20, 1999 [Viewgraphs]3. Enhanced Design Alternative (EDA) II Description and Plans for Refinement, presented by R. Snell, DOE, July 20, 1999 [Viewgraphs] |
| 6 | <u>Spent Fuel Projects Office Briefing</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Spent Fuel Project Office, Briefing on Spent Fuel Storage and Transpiration for the 111th ACNW Meeting, presented by E. Brach and M. W. Hodges, SFPO, July 21, 1999 [Viewgraphs] |
| 7 | <u>DOE Presentation on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Repository</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High-Level Radioactive Waste, presented by W. Dixon, DOE, July 21, 1999 [Viewgraphs] |

MEETING NOTEBOOK CONTENTS**TAB****NUMBER****DOCUMENTS****Opening Remarks by ACNW Chairman**

1. Introductory Statement by the ACNW Chairman, undated
2. Items of Current Interest, undated
3. Introductory Statement by the ACNW Chairman, Second Day, undated
4. Introductory Statement by the ACNW Chairman, Third Day, undated

2**Planning and Procedures**

5. Set Agenda for the 112th ACNW Meeting, September 19–21, 1999
6. Set Agenda for Out Months through November 1999
7. Reconciliation of Commission and EDO Responses to ACNW Reports
8. Letter date June 25, 1999, from R. Budnitz, on 10 CFR Part 63 and Defense In Depth
9. Recent and Planned Attendance at Outside Meetings
10. Reports on Members/CNWRA Individual Technical Interactions
11. ACNW Meeting 1999 Calendar
12. OCRWM/M&O Meeting List and ACNW 1998 Calendar
13. EDO's List of Future Meeting Topics

3**Risk Communication**

14. Status Report
15. Task Action Plan
16. Briefing Point Paper and Recommendations from L. Deering to ACNW Members during May 1999 ACNW Meeting, "Update on the Risk Communication Priority"
17. Highlights of May 21, 1999 presentation by V. Covello, High Risk Low Trust Communications, by J. Kotra
18. Biographical Sketch for Vincent Covello, Ph.D., Center for Risk Communication
19. Note dated May 13, 1999, from Lawrence Kokajko, SFPO, to Rich Major, ACNW
20. Letter dated June 18, 1999, from Shirley A. Jackson, NRC, to B. John Garrick, ACNW, Subject: Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste 1999 Action Plan and Priority Issues
21. Memorandum dated May 27, 1999, from Commissioner McGaffigan to Commissioner Diaz, Subject: COMNJD-99-002 — Nevada Public Meeting on Spent Fuel Transportation

MEETING NOTEBOOK CONTENTS (CONT'D)**TAB
NUMBER****DOCUMENTS****3 (cont'd)****Risk Communication (Cont'd)**

22. Strategies for Communicating Uncertainties for the Public, Captain Alvin Chun, U. S. Public Health Service, presented at the Risk Assessment Conference, October 31, 1996

5**Update on DOE Yucca Mountain Repository Design**

23. Status Report
24. Rendition of EDA II Design and Brief Description of Main Features (from handout at Performance Assessment Operations In-Drift Geochemical Environment and EBS Transport Workshop, April 13-15, 1999, Las Vegas, NV)
25. Portion of Minutes from the 106th ACNW Meeting on the DOE LADS Process and Viewgraphs presented by R. Craun, DOE
26. Viewgraphs presented by J. Younker, April 22, 1999, *Evolution of the Repository Design: M&O Recommendation*
27. Viewgraphs presented by L. Rickertson at NRC/DOE Technical Exchange, May 25-27, 1999, *VA Results from Importance (DID) Analysis*

6**Spent Fuel Project Office Briefing**

28. Status Report
29. Spent Fuel Project Office Proposed Informational Meeting Agenda Topics

7**DOE Presentation on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Yucca Mountain Repository**

30. Status Report
31. Viewgraphs presented by M. Lee, NMSS, at 110th ACNW Meeting, *Staff Review of DOE's Draft Environmental Impact Statement: Proposed Approach*
32. Draft DEIS Public Hearings, dated May 4, 1999