

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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**NRC STAFF SCHEDULES THREE-DAY CONFERENCE
TO DISCUSS REGULATORY ISSUES WITH NUCLEAR INDUSTRY**

Advanced registration is now available for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's 12th Annual Regulatory Information Conference, March 27, 28 and 29, at the Capital Hilton Hotel, 16th and K Streets, NW, Washington, D.C.

The conference will focus on major issues and initiatives associated with the regulation of commercial nuclear power plants. The NRC's revised oversight process, risk-informing regulations, license renewal and decommissioning are among the topics that conferees will discuss during a variety of issue-specific sessions. For additional information and to register for the conference, interested parties should access the NRC's conference Web site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/RIC/2000/index.html>, or contact IQ Solutions, Inc. 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 801, Rockville, Maryland 20852, (phone) 301-984-1471, (fax) 301-984-1333.

The conference is open to the public, but advanced registration is suggested. Hotel reservations should be made through the Capital Hilton at 202-393-1000, or 1-800-HILTONS.

After William D. Travers, Executive Director for Operations, opens the conference on Monday, March 27, at 1 p.m., Chairman Richard A. Meserve will deliver the keynote speech. Samuel J. Collins, Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Regulation, and Ralph Beedle, Senior Vice President and Chief Nuclear Officer of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), will then co-chair a plenary session on conference objectives and expectations. Regional breakout sessions will be held at 4:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 28, the conference will begin at 8 a.m. with a plenary session on regulatory trends and eight issue-specific breakout sessions, including those on the revised oversight process, decommissioning, technical specifications and licensing improvements, effective/efficient regulation, waste issues and public confidence. Commissioner Greta Joy Dicus will address a plenary session at noon followed by lunch, sponsored by the NEI, which will feature Joe Colvin, the organization's President and Chief Executive Officer, as the guest speaker. Luncheon tickets can be obtained at a cost of \$35 per person by calling Nicki Rocco at 202-739-8048, or via e-mail at lec@nei.org.

The Tuesday post-luncheon schedule will include Commissioner Edward J. McGaffigan, Jr. addressing the conferees in a plenary session at 2:15 p.m. Afternoon breakout sessions will follow on risk-informing regulations, revised oversight processes, information access/sharing and international regulatory experience. Commissioner Nils J. Diaz then will speak to the attendees at 4:45 p.m.

The Wednesday session will start at 8 a.m. with a plenary session featuring Commissioner Jeffrey S. Merrifield. Four breakout sessions will follow on license renewal, work-environment issues, industry initiatives and ongoing rulemakings. A feedback plenary session will be held at 11 a.m., with adjournment at noon.

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