



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seeking public comment on its draft Fiscal Year 2000-2005 Strategic Plan which provides a blueprint for the agency to plan, implement, and monitor work needed to achieve its goals.

The draft plan, which has not yet been approved by the five-member Commission, describes the agency's strategic goals, performance goals, and strategies for achieving NRC's mission. It is organized into four strategic arenas: 1) Nuclear Reactor Safety; 2) Nuclear Materials Safety; 3) Nuclear Waste Safety; and 4) International Nuclear Safety Support. To help accomplish agency goals, NRC has established overarching corporate management strategies which are also described in the draft plan. A summary is provided in Volume 1 with more details, required by the Government Performance and Results Act, provided in Volume 2.

Embodied in the plan is the agency's understanding that decisions must be based first and foremost on their contributions to public health and safety. In addition, the NRC must also consider the effect of its decisions on the public it protects, on the industries it regulates, and on the effectiveness and efficiency of internal NRC operations.

The NRC issued its first Strategic Plan in September 1997 and is required to update it every three years. The current plan is based more on performance and the outcomes the agency intends to achieve. It addresses concerns and comments raised in Congressional hearings as well as in meetings with members of the public and stakeholders who would be most affected by NRC decisions. Also, it captures recent regulatory reforms and their outcomes in the long term.

Additional details will be available in an upcoming edition of the Federal Register. The draft strategic plan and a forum for submitting comments electronically will be available at: <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/planning.html> on NRC's web site.

All written comments should be submitted by April 7, 2000, to Daryl Kade at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop: T-9D25, Washington, D.C., 20555-0001.

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