

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Public Affairs
Washington, DC 20555
Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234
Internet:opa@nrc.gov

No. 99-142

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Friday, July 9, 1999)

NRC POSTS ADVANCE COPIES OF
PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS ON WEB PAGE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has begun to post daily on its Internet website a list of advance copies of documents that have been placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Commission documents, such as policy and issue papers, directions to the staff, Commission voting records, and documents produced by the staff, including communications between offices and to the Commission, will be located at:
<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/PDR/pdrdoc.html>

NRC has initiated this service to assure that all interested stakeholders simultaneously are informed when advance copies of documents are made publicly available. Advance copies are paper copies of documents of immediate interest that have been provided to the NRC Public Document Room while the normal internal document processing is occurring.

A recent review showed that, while the agency routinely sends advance copies of documents to the Public Document Room at the same time they are released to certain stakeholders, others would not necessarily know of their availability. The agency was recently criticized on this score by a public interest group.

Posting a list of advance copies of publicly available documents on the website will serve as an interim measure until the agency's new document management system becomes available in October. From that point, all of NRC's publicly available documents will be accessible through the agency's website.

The NRC normally makes about 300 documents publicly available each day. But only a small number are of enough immediate interest to be distributed as advance copies. For a complete list or copies of all the documents made publicly available, stakeholders may continue to contact the Public Document Room via e-mail, at pdr@nrc.gov or by telephone, at 202-634-3273. The Public Document Room is located at 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20037.

###