No. 91-160 Tel. 301-504-2240 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Tuesday, December 31, 1991)

NRC PROPOSES TO AMEND REGULATIONS TO SPECIFY WHERE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION COULD BE INVOLVED

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is proposing to amend its regulations to identify more clearly those regulations which—for willful violation, attempted violation or conspiracy to violate—may subject the violator to criminal penalties under the authority of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

As proposed, the amendments would include, in each appropriate part of Chapter I of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, a section that would address criminal penalties and contain a statement that, for the purposes of the Atomic Energy Act, all the regulations in the part are issued under those sections of the Act that authorize criminal penalties. The exceptions would be those regulations that are primarily administrative in nature and exempt from criminal penalties and these regulations would be specifically enumerated.

Written comments on the proposed amendments to Parts 11, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 39, 40, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 60, 61, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 95, 110, 140 and 150 of the Commission's regulations should be received by March 16, 1992. They should be addressed to the Secretary of the Commission, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch.

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