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Tel. 301/504-2240

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Tuesday, February 8, 1994)

NRC'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE
TO MEET FEBRUARY 23-24 IN BETHESDA, MD.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) has scheduled a technical meeting February 23-24 in Bethesda, Maryland.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. each day in Room P-110, 7920 Norfolk Avenue.

(ACNW schedules are subject to change. Anyone planning to attend should confirm the schedule the day before the meeting by calling 301/492-4516.)

Although meetings of the ACNW are open to the public, they are not part of the NRC's public hearing process. The ACNW was established by the Commission in March 1988 to advise it on all aspects of nuclear waste management. While members of the public may attend the meeting, the committee will consider only oral or written statements limited to specific matters set forth in a Notice of Meeting published in the Federal Register on February 8.

Discussions at the meeting will include:

--the NRC staff's approach to reviewing Department of Energy (DOE) topical reports on resolution of issues in high-level waste management;

--issues of Agreement States' adequacy and compatibility with NRC regulatory programs, focusing on low-level waste disposal facilities;

--DOE's response to recent NRC staff concerns regarding design control issues related to an exploratory studies facility at Yucca Mountain in Nevada;

--the status of NRC staff work on volcanism related to a high-level waste repository; and

--issues related to the definition of "important to safety" that arise from a design basis event for the geological repository operations area.

Persons wishing to submit a statement regarding the agenda may do so by providing a readily reproducible copy to the committee at the beginning of the meeting or by mailing it to the Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555.

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(NOTE TO EDITORS: The use of self-contained tape recorders in the meeting room is permitted during open portions of the meeting when a transcript is being kept. The use of still, motion picture and television cameras--the physical installation and presence of which will not interfere with the course of the meeting--will be permitted both before and after the meeting, during any recess, and, at the discretion of the committee chairman, while the meeting is in session.)