

No. 94-42
Tel. 301-504-2240

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Wednesday, March 9, 1994)

NRC STAFF SCHEDULES TWO-DAY CONFERENCE
TO DISCUSS REGULATORY ISSUES WITH NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled its sixth annual conference for Tuesday and Wednesday, May 3-4, with the nuclear industry, including utilities licensed to operate or build nuclear power plants in the U.S., to discuss safety and regulatory issues of mutual interest. This year's theme will be enhancing and developing a better understanding of future trends for improved nuclear safety.

The conference will be held at The Mayflower Hotel located at 1127 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., in Washington, DC. It will be open to the public but requires advance registration.

William T. Russell, NRC's Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, will open the conference on Tuesday while Commissioner Kenneth C. Rogers will be the featured luncheon speaker and Commissioner Forrest J. Remick will be the dinner speaker that evening. Wednesday's luncheon speaker will be James M. Taylor, NRC's Executive Director for Operations.

The first day of the conference will begin with a general plenary session on regulatory trends from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Specific breakout sessions, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., will address license renewal update, fire protection issues, technical specifications improvement, and steam generator issues.

The afternoon's plenary session, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., will deal with operational and regional issues including the senior management review process, operation and maintenance cost reduction and safety, licensee self assessment, and Region IV/V consolidation. Breakout sessions from 3:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. will discuss licensee interim spent fuel storage, reactor pressure vessel issues, valve performance issues, and experience with use of Part 50.54(x) of NRC's regulations.

James L. Milhoan, NRC's Deputy Executive Director for Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Regional Operations & Research, will open the morning session on May 4 at 8:30 a.m. This will be followed by a plenary session, 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., dealing

with implementing the recent regulatory review group recommendations. Breakout sessions, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., will center on cost beneficial licensing actions program, probabilistic risk assessment applications in reactor regulation, advance light water reactors review and design certification, and graded quality assurance, Part 21 revisions, and commercial grade dedication.

Afternoon breakout sessions, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., will deal with maintenance rule implementation, allegations and protecting allegers against retaliation, decommissioning issues, and digital instrumentation and control retrofit and Part 50.59 of NRC's regulations. The closing plenary session will be held from 3:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For information on registration for the conference, interested persons should contact Ms. Lynn Wilson, ES Inc., by telephone on 202-835-1585 or by facsimile on 202-835-0118.

#