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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Friday, March 31, 1995)

NRC PUBLISHES PLANS FOR ENHANCING RESPONSIVENESS TO THE PUBLIC

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has published for comment draft plans for increasing its responsiveness to the public.

In conjunction with the National Performance Review to improve federal government service, the NRC is placing new emphasis on "putting the customer first" in its improvement plans. The objective is to provide information in as reliable, competent, courteous, and timely a manner as possible to bolster confidence that the NRC is carrying out its mission to protect public health and safety.

It has been a long-standing policy of the NRC to conduct its business activities in an open and public manner. The public includes individual citizens, public interest groups, petitioners, licensees, industry groups, contractors, the Congress, and others with whom NRC does business.

Recent initiatives to be even more responsive to the public have included increased use of public workshops for rulemaking activities, participatory rulemaking, a pilot program opening enforcement conferences to the public, surveys of licensees to identify ways to reduce the regulatory burden on licensees, and the Cost Beneficial Licensing Action Program.

The plans are being published in a draft report so that NRC can consider comments and make adjustments and enhancements in the plans as implementation proceeds.

Those wishing to comment may obtain a free single copy of draft NUREG/BR-0199, Draft Report on Responsiveness to the Public, by writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Administration, Printing and Mail Services Section, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Additionally, the report is available through the Internet World Wide Web server, which can be accessed by using the Uniform Resource Locator, (URL)<http://www.nrc.gov>. A copy is available for inspection and/or copying for a fee in the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC.

Written comments should be mailed to: Secretary, Docketing and Service Branch, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Comments submitted over the Internet should be addressed to secy@nrc.gov. All comments need to be submitted by May 30.

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