

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. 96-15

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Thursday, January 25, 1996)

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

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled its eighth annual conference with the nuclear industry for April 9-10 to discuss safety and regulatory issues. The conference will focus on enhancing and developing a better understanding of future trends for improved nuclear safety.

Sessions will be held at The Capital Hilton Hotel, 16th and K Streets, NW, Washington, D.C. The conference will be open to the public but advance registration is suggested.

William T. Russell, director of the NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, will open the conference on Tuesday. Chairman Shirley Ann Jackson will be the featured morning speaker. James M. Taylor, NRC executive director for operations, will speak after the luncheon.

The first day of the conference will begin with a general plenary session on regulatory trends from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Specific breakout sessions, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, will address a probabilistic safety assessment implementation plan, dry cask storage, improved technical specification conversion and operator licensing examination changes.

The afternoon plenary session, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., will feature a panel of regional administrators lead by James L. Milhoan, NRC's deputy executive director for nuclear reactor regulation, regional operations and research. They will deal with performance-based changes in the inspection program, experience with enforcement policy, plant performance review process and self assessment. Breakout sessions from 3:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m., will discuss performance assessment program activities, electronic information exchange, core performance reactor fuel issues, and a revised decommissioning rule and its implementation.

A full day of breakout sessions will take place the following day, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m., with each of the four regional administrators discussing NRC/licensee

communications. The next session, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, will focus on competition, utility restructuring, mergers, and NRC licensing activities; steam generator issues; fire protection issues; and implementation of the maintenance rule.

Afternoon sessions, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., will deal with reactor vessel and internals issues, an update of license renewal, a shutdown rule, and spent fuel pool issues. The closing plenary session will be held from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

For information on registration for the conference, interested persons should contact ES, Inc., (after February 1) by telephone on 202-835-1585 or by facsimile on 202-835-0118.

#