

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, DC 20555  
Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234  
Internet:opa@nrc.gov

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**NRC STAFF SCHEDULES CONFERENCE MARCH 3-5  
TO DISCUSS REGULATORY ISSUES WITH NUCLEAR INDUSTRY**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold its 11th annual Regulatory Information Conference March 3-5 at the Capital Hilton Hotel, 16th and K Streets, NW, Washington, DC.

The conference will focus on enhancing and developing a better understanding of future trends for improved nuclear safety. This year's agenda includes sessions on both general policy and issue-specific matters.

Sessions will be open to the public, but advance registration is suggested through the Regulatory Information Conference website at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/RIC/index.html> or by calling the conference arrangements contractor, ES, Inc., at (202) 835-1585. Its fax number is (202) 835-0118.

Samuel J. Collins, Director of the NRC Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, will open the conference at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 3. His welcome address will be followed by a plenary session entitled "Senior NRC Management/Conferees Forum." This discussion by selected senior NRC managers and conferees will have no preset topics or prepared presentations. It will end at 4:30 p.m.

There follows the agenda for the remainder of the conference:

**Thursday, March 4 (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)**

Morning issue-specific sessions -- Waste management; reactor licensing (Final Safety Analysis Report update guidelines, design basis and 10 CFR Part 50.59 rulemaking); decommissioning; electronic submittals/NRC webpage information; and steam generator regulatory framework.

Morning policy focus sessions on reactor oversight -- Licensee performance assessment; improvements in the performance assessment process; and inspection and enforcement Initiatives and Issues.

Afternoon program -- Policy focus breakout sessions on regional/licensee communications and points of contact.

**Friday, March 5 (8 a.m. to noon)**

Issue-specific sessions -- Source term, potential Year 2000 computer problems and NRC actions, license renewal, fire protection, and quality assurance program change control rulemaking.

Policy focus sessions -- Risk-informed/performance-based regulation; licensing and rulemaking process improvement; and NRC strategic planning and priorities.

The conference will wind up with a closing and feedback session starting at 11 a.m. Adjournment is scheduled for noon.

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