

June 15, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Meserve
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield

FROM: John T. Larkins **/RA/**
Executive Director, ACRS/ACNW

SUBJECT: DRAFT PRESS RELEASE AND *FEDERAL REGISTER* NOTICE
TO SOLICIT QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR THE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS

Attached is a copy of the draft *Federal Register* notice and the draft press release that we plan to use to solicit qualified candidates for possible appointment to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) to fill two vacancies. These materials specify that the Commission is seeking two individuals with expertise in distinct areas as follows:

1. Structural mechanics/materials engineering and metallurgy; and
2. Risk methods application related to nuclear regulatory safety issues.

We request Commission approval by June 30, 2000. We will submit the *Federal Register* notice to the Office of the Secretary for publication and the press release information to the Office of Public Affairs (OPA) for distribution. OPA develops and provides a press release to a variety of sources for informational purposes. We also supplement OPA's mailing list with a list of organizations, over a dozen of which specifically serve women and the minority community. Through the Office of Human Resources, we also plan to place paid advertisements in the following publications:

Chemical Engineering
American Nuclear Society
American Society of Mechanical Engineers
IEEE Spectrum
Physics Today
Power Engineering
Nuclear News
Nuclear Plant Journal
Mechanical Engineering

For additional information, please call me at 415-7360.

Attachments:

1. Draft *Federal Register* Notice
3. Draft Press Release Information

cc: SECY

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DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

NRC INVITES PUBLIC TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking qualified candidates for the appointment to two vacancies to its Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS).

The ACRS was established by Congress to provide the NRC with independent expert advice on matters related to the safety of existing and proposed nuclear facilities and on the adequacy of the proposed reactor safety standards. Emphasis is currently being given to safety issues associated with the operation of 103 commercial nuclear units in the United States; risk-informed regulatory approach; license renewal applications; risk-informed revisions to 10 CFR Part 50; revisions to the NRC Safety Goal Policy Statement; plant-specific application of safety goals; and application of revised source term to operating plants.

The ACRS membership is drawn from the variety of engineering and scientific disciplines needed to conduct the broadly based review for these facilities, as well as proposed standards and criteria and related research activities. At this time, the Commission is specifically seeking to fill two vacancies with expertise in structural mechanics/materials engineering and metallurgy; and risk methods application related to nuclear safety issues. Candidates are selected to provide a balanced technical base consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Because conflict-of-interest regulations restrict the participation of members actively involved in the regulated aspects of the nuclear industry, the degree and nature of any such involvement will

be weighed. Each qualified candidate's financial interests must be reconciled with applicable Federal and NRC rules and regulations prior to final appointment. This might require divestiture of securities issued by nuclear industry entities, or discontinuance of industry-funded research contracts or grants.

A résumé describing the educational and professional background of the nominee, including any special accomplishments, professional references, current address and telephone number should be provided. Nominees must be citizens of the United States. All candidates will receive careful consideration. An indication of the candidate's ability and willingness to devote the time required (approximately 80-100 days per year) should also be provided. Applications will be accepted until August 29, 2000.

Copies of résumés of nominees should be sent to the Office of Human Resources, ATTN: Robin Avent, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C., 20555.

Draft *Federal Register* Notice

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION SEEKS QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REACTOR SAFEGUARDS

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

ACTION: Request for résumés

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking two qualified candidates for appointment to its Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS).

ADDRESS: Submit résumés to: Ms. Robin Avent, Office of Human Resources, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

FOR APPLICATION MATERIALS, CALL: 1-800-952-9678. Please refer to Announcement Number 60000001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Congress established the ACRS to provide the NRC with independent expert advice on matters related to regulatory policy and the safety of existing and proposed nuclear power plants. The Committee work currently emphasizes safety issues associated with the operation of 103 commercial nuclear power plants in the United States; the pursuit of a risk-informed, and ultimately, as appropriate, performance-based regulatory approach; digital instrumentation and control systems; and technical and policy issues related to standard plant designs.

The ACRS membership includes individuals from national laboratories, academia, and industry who possess specific technical expertise along with a broad perspective in addressing safety concerns. Committee members are selected from a variety of engineering and scientific disciplines, such as nuclear power plant operations, nuclear engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, chemical engineering, metallurgical engineering, structural engineering, materials science, and instrumentation and process control systems. At this time, candidates are specifically being sought who have 15-20 years of experience, including graduate level education, in the areas of structural mechanics/materials engineering and metallurgy; and risk methods application related to nuclear regulatory safety issues.

Criteria used to evaluate candidates include education and experience, demonstrated skills in nuclear safety matters, and the ability to solve problems. Additionally, the Commission considers the need for specific expertise in relationship to current and future tasks. Consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Commission seeks candidates with varying views so that the membership on the Committee will be fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and functions to be performed by the Committee.

Because conflict-of-interest regulations restrict the participation of members actively involved in the regulated aspects of the nuclear industry, the degree and nature of any such involvement will be weighed. Each qualified candidate's financial interests must be reconciled with applicable Federal and NRC rules and regulations prior to final appointment. This might require divestiture of securities issued by nuclear industry entities, or discontinuance of industry-funded research contracts or grants.

Copies of a résumé describing the educational and professional background of the candidate, including any special accomplishments, professional references, current address and telephone number should be provided. All qualified candidates will receive careful consideration. Appointment will be made without regard to such factors as race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disabilities. Candidates must be citizens of the United States and be able to devote approximately 50-100 days per year to Committee business. Applications will be accepted until August 29, 2000.

Date _____

Andrew L. Bates
Advisory Committee Management Officer