

July 19, 2000

ALL AGREEMENT STATES

MINNESOTA, OKLAHOMA, PENNSYLVANIA, WISCONSIN

**OTHER INFORMATION: NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS ON 10 CFR PART 71
RULEMAKING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON ISSUES PAPER (STP-00-061)**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) regulations for the packaging and transportation of radioactive materials are contained in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 71 (10 CFR 71). In general, the regulations in Part 71 are based on the transport standards developed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which are adopted by member States, including the United States. The IAEA revises its transportation standards periodically with the latest revision, Transportation Safety Standards ST-1, published in December 1996. On October 19, 1998, the Commission directed the staff to develop a rule to harmonize 10 CFR Part 71 with ST-1. In addition to revisions to harmonize with international regulations, NRC is also considering other changes to make Part 71 more risk-informed. As part of this effort, NRC will be conducting three public meetings that will focus on discussions related to the specific issues NRC is considering as part of this rulemaking.

The first meeting will be held on August 10, 2000 at NRC Headquarters, Auditorium - Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The second meeting will be held on September 20, 2000 in Atlanta, Georgia and the third meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2000 in Oakland, California.

To support the public participation process, the NRC has prepared an issues paper (see Federal Register Notice dated July 17, 2000) at:

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=2000_register&docid=00-18029-filed

to be used as a starting point for discussion at the public meetings. The issues paper summarizes 18 issues associated with the Part 71 rulemaking, including 11 related to harmonizing Part 71 with IAEA standards. The issues paper also identifies a number of general and specific factors for consideration. Please note that comments are requested by September 30, 2000.

The NRC Web Site will also contain information on the public meetings and can be found at <http://www.nrc.gov/NMSS/IMNS/transport.html>. For information on the public meetings contact Mr. Francis X. Cameron, the meeting facilitator at (301) 415-1642 or Mr. Naiem S. Tanious at (301) 415-6103.

This information request has been approved by OMB 3150-0029, expiration 04/30/01. The estimated burden per response to comply with this voluntary collection request is 6 hour(s). Forward any comments regarding the burden estimate to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to the Paperwork Reduction Project (3150-0029), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. If a document does not display a currently valid OMB control number, the NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me or the individual named below.

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