



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO BROADCAST COMMISSION MEETING LIVE OVER THE INTERNET

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will broadcast live over the Internet the second public meeting as part of a pilot program to test "media streaming" technology. The Commission meeting, featuring a proposal to revise special requirements for certain structures, systems and components at nuclear power plants based on their safety significance, will begin at 9:30 a.m. on September 29.

Over the next eight months (from now through March 26, 2001), the NRC will broadcast up to 20 open Commission meetings as a means of improving and expanding communications with the public. All "streamed" meetings will be archived and available to Internet users worldwide at www.nrc.gov/live.html.

Commission meetings can be viewed from a personal computer, thus eliminating travel costs to NRC headquarters. To observe Commission meetings, users need a computer equipped with a sound card and speakers, access to the Internet, and Real Networks Player software (a free version is available for download from the www.nrc.gov/live.html web page). Detailed instructions are provided at the web site for accessing meetings, as well as a toll-free telephone number and e-mail address for assistance.

The first Commission meeting to be broadcast was unsuccessful due to technical difficulties experienced during the nationwide telephone strike. Various fixes and backup provisions have been made which should help ensure smooth transmission over the Internet for the September 29 meeting. If a technical problem develops, a message will appear on users' screens notifying them of technical difficulties.

The web page provides viewers an opportunity to provide comments on the broadcasts. The agency will use this feedback in determining the value of providing this service in the future. Meeting transcripts and a complete listing of Commission meetings will continue to be available on NRC's home page at www.nrc.gov/NRC/PUBLIC/meet.html#COMMISSION.

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