

April 17, 2001

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 APPOINTMENT  
TO 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 a vacancy that is expected in August 2001. These documents emphasize that the Commission is seeking an individual with expertise in the area of thermal hydraulics.

The ACRS recently assessed the technical expertise needed to assist the Committee in future reviews. The Committee considered the need for expertise in digital instrumentation and control, reactor physics (i.e., advanced reactor core design reviews) and lastly, thermal hydraulics. Because of the projected workload in the area of thermal-hydraulic code reviews, power uprates, advance reactor design and other areas, the Committee decided it could fully utilize an additional member with expertise in thermal hydraulics.

We request Commission approval by April 27, 2001. 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. Through the Office of Human Resources, we also plan to place paid advertisements in several publications.

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

Attachments:

1. Draft *Federal Register* Notice
2. 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 an appointment to its Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) to fill a vacancy.

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 and performance-based regulatory approaches; license renewal applications; risk-informed revisions to 10 CFR Part 50; power uprates, transient and accident analysis codes; use of mixed oxide and high burnup fuels; and advanced reactor designs.

The ACRS membership is drawn from a 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 individuals with 15-20 years of experience, including graduate level education, in the area of thermal hydraulics. 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 July 16, 2001.

Copies of résumés of nominees should be sent to the attention of Ms. Sherry Meador, Administrative Assistant, Operations Support Branch, ACRS/ACNW, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C., 20555-0001.

## 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 qualified candidates for an appointment to its Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) to fill a vacancy.

ADDRESS: Submit résumés to: Ms. Sherry Meador, Administrative Assistant, Operations Support Branch, ACRS/ACNW, 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 the safety of existing and proposed nuclear power plants and on the adequacy of the proposed reactor safety standards. The Committee work currently emphasizes safety issues associated with the operation of 103 commercial nuclear units in the United States; the pursuit of a risk-informed and performance-based regulatory approaches; license renewal applications; risk-informed revisions to 10 CFR Part 50; power uprates; transient and accident analysis codes; use of mixed oxide and high burnup fuels; and advanced reactor 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, risk assessments, 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 area of thermal hydraulics.

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 80-100 days per year to Committee business. Applications will be accepted until July 16, 2001.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew L. Bates  
Advisory Committee Management Officer