COMSECY-01-0021

July 12, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Meserve
Commissioner Dicus
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 NUCLEAR WASTE

Attached is a copy of the draft *Federal Register* notice and draft press release information that we propose to use to solicit qualified candidates for possible appointment to the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW). The solicitation is for an additional ACNW member which would bring the Committee membership to five. An additional member would allow the ACNW to cover the projected increase in workload associated with the Yucca Mountain review activities. Also, a fifth member with expertise in health physics/consequence modeling would allow the Committee to cover technical issues of significance in performance assessment more thoroughly. Lastly, the ACNW could operate more effectively and efficiently with a fifth member in that subcommittee meetings could be held with 2 or 3 members, and there could be a better division of work responsibilities.

The ACNW recently assessed the technical expertise needed to assist the Committee in future reviews. Because of the projected workload in the area of Yucca Mountain high level waste issue resolution, guidance development, and license application review, the Committee decided it could fully utilize an additional member with expertise in health physics, dose assessment and consequence modeling. Also, expertise in the area of health physics would be useful for ACNW reviews in other non-HLW disposal matters (e.g., linear non-threshold, low-level radioactive waste disposal site clean-up and assessment, decommissioning).

We request Commission approval by July 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) to develop and provide 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. We will review any necessary revisions in the ACNW's Charter with the Office of General Counsel, subsequent to Commission approval.

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

Attachments:
1. Draft *Federal Register* Notice
2. Draft Press Release Information

cc: SECY

DRAFT *FEDERAL REGISTER* NOTICE

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

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

ACTION: Request for resumès.

SUMMARY: Submit resumès to: Ms. Sherry Meador, ACRS/ACNW, Mail Stop T2E-26, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission established the ACNW to provide independent technical review of and advice on matters related to the management of nuclear waste, including all aspects of nuclear waste disposal facilities, as directed by the Commission. This includes activities related to both high- and low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities, including the licensing, operation, and closure of the facilities, rulemakings, and associated regulatory guides and technical positions developed to clarify the intent of NRC's high- and low-level waste regulations. The ACNW also reviews performance assessment evaluations of waste disposal facilities. Committee members are selected from a variety of engineering and scientific disciplines, such as risk assessment, chemistry, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, materials sciences, and the earth sciences. Currently, the Commission is seeking an individual with technical expertise in the area of health physics, dose

assessment and consequences modeling to augment the existing ACNW membership expertise.

Criteria used to evaluate candidates include education and experience, demonstrated skills in nuclear waste management matters, and the ability to solve complex technical problems. The Commission, in making its selections, considers its need for an individual's specific expertise in relationship to work expected to be before the ACNW. At this time, the expertise must be directly related to the area of health physics including dose assessment and consequence modeling. Consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Commission seeks candidates with diverse backgrounds, 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.

Candidates for ACNW appointments may be involved in or have financial interests related to NRC-regulated aspects of the nuclear industry. Because conflict-of-interest considerations may restrict the participation of ACNW members in ACNW activities, the degree and nature of any such restriction on an individual's activities as a member will be considered in the selection process. 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 or discontinuance of certain contracts or grants. Information regarding these restrictions will be provided upon request.

A resumè describing the educational and professional background of the candidate, including any special accomplishments and professional references should be provided. Candidates should provide their current address, telephone number, and e-mail address. All 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 and considered as vacancies occur.

Date

Andrew L. Bates
Advisory Committee Management Officer

DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

NRC INVITES PUBLIC TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking qualified candidates for an appointment to its Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW). Currently there is one opening on the Committee.

The ACNW is a part-time advisory group established by the NRC in 1988 to provide independent technical review of and advice on the disposal of nuclear waste, including all aspects of nuclear waste disposal facilities, as directed by the NRC. This includes activities related to both high- and low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities including the licensing, operation and closure of the facilities, rulemakings, and associated regulatory guides and technical positions developed to clarify the intent of NRC's high- and low-level waste regulations. The ACNW also reviews performance assessment evaluations of radioactive waste disposal facilities. Currently, the Commission is seeking an individual with technical expertise in health physics, dose assessment, and consequence modeling.

The ACNW membership includes individuals 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 risk assessment, chemistry, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, materials sciences, and earth sciences. At this time, candidates are being sought who have 15-

20 years of experience, including graduate level education and significant experience in the area of health physics including dose assessment and consequence modeling.

Criteria used to evaluate candidates include education and experience, demonstrated skills in nuclear waste management matters, and the ability to solve complex technical problems. The Commission, in making its selections, considers its need for an individual's specific expertise in relationship to work expected to be before the ACNW. At this time candidates must demonstrate significant experience in health physics, dose assessment, and consequence modeling. Consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Commission seeks candidates with diverse backgrounds 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.

Candidates for ACNW appointments may be involved in or have financial interests related to NRC-regulated aspects of the nuclear industry. Because conflict-of-interest considerations may restrict the participation of ACNW members in ACNW activities, the degree and nature of any such restriction on an individual's activities as a member will be considered in the selection process. 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 or discontinuance of certain contracts or grants. Information regarding these restrictions will be provided upon request.

A resumé describing the educational and professional background of the nominee, including special accomplishments and professional references should be provided. Candidates should provide their current address, telephone number, and e-mail address. All 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.

Copies of resumés of nominees should be sent to the Office of Human Resources, ATTN: Sherry Meador, Mail Stop T2E-26, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.