

**Resulting Changes
in Proposed
NRC MOX DEIS**

The DEIS will include and evaluate the proposed changes to the MOX fuel fabrication facility, including new and/or altered equipment plans, additional processing steps and the consequent hazards, and the additional waste generated. The DEIS will also evaluate the changes to the waste processing plans, including construction and operation of a new DOE facility. Finally, the DEIS will evaluate the impacts of transporting and using the additional MOX fuel. The impacts related to reactor use of MOX fuel, as described in the ER, consider only fuel converted from 25.5 MT of surplus plutonium, and not the 34 MT now scheduled to be converted into MOX fuel at the proposed MOX facility. The DEIS will consider the impacts associated with 34 MT.

**Your Comments are
Requested**

NRC is hereby soliciting comments on our plans for the DEIS to accommodate the changes in the DOE and DCS programs. We would specifically like you to comment on:

1. How the immobilization of surplus plutonium as a No Action Alternative should be discussed in the DEIS, since DOE has canceled plans to build the Plutonium Immobilization Plant.
2. Whether there are additional reasonable alternatives not identified during scoping that should be considered in the DEIS in light of the changes described above. As discussed in the Scoping Summary Report, NRC is considering the environmental impacts of the proposed action (construction and operation of the proposed MOX fuel fabrication facility), continued storage of surplus plutonium at existing DOE sites, and immobilization of surplus plutonium. If the immobilization alternative is not considered, then the DEIS would only evaluate the proposed action and one No Action Alternative.

Please submit your comments on or before August 30, 2002. Written comments should be mailed to Mike Lesar, Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mail Stop T-6D59, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Comments will also be accepted by e-mail. Interested parties may e-mail their comments to teh@nrc.gov. Comments will also be accepted by fax at (301) 415-5398, Attention: Tim Harris.

**Tentative EIS
Schedule**

Based on available information and certain assumptions, we have revised the EIS schedule as follows:

Conduct Acceptance Review of DCS Supplemental Environmental Report	August 2002
Conduct Informational Meetings	September 2002
Issue Draft Environmental Impact Statement	February 2003
Public Comment on DEIS	February - April 2003
Issue Final Environmental Impact Statement	August 2003

**Information
Contacts**

For information on the NRC NEPA process as applied to the proposed MOX facility, please contact: Tim Harris at (301) 415-6613. For technical information associated with the proposed MOX facility, please contact: Tim Johnson at (301) 415-7299, or Drew Persinko at (301) 415-6522.

Information and documents associated with the MOX project are available for public review through our electronic reading room: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html>. Documents may also be obtained from NRC's Public Document Room at U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Public Document Room, Washington, DC 20555.