

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT STAFF TECHNICAL POSITION
INVESTIGATIONS TO IDENTIFY FAULT DISPLACEMENT AND
SEISMIC HAZARDS AT A GEOLOGIC REPOSITORY

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is announcing the availability of the draft staff technical position (STP) on "Investigations to Identify Fault Displacement and Seismic Hazards at a Geologic Repository."

DATE: The comment period expires _____, 1991. [45-day public comment period.]

ADDRESSES: Send comments to David L. Meyer, Chief, Regulatory Publications Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publication Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555. Copies of this document may be obtained free of charge upon written request to Anne E. Garcia, Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate, Division of High-Level Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop 4-H-3, Washington, D.C. 20555. Telephone 301/492-0438. A copy of the draft STP is also

available for public inspection and/or copying at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street (Lower Level), N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael P. Lee, Project Manager, Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate, Division of High-Level Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop 4-H-3, Washington, D.C. 20555. Telephone 301/492-0421.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 24, 1989, the NRC published the "Notice of Availability" for the "Draft Technical Position (TP) on Methods of Evaluating the Seismic Hazard at a Geologic Repository" and solicited public comments (see 54 FR 35266). As a result, approximately 40 comments were received from three different parties. The NRC staff reviewed the comments and, as a result of these comments and a subsequent technical exchange with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the State of Nevada, Nye County, Nevada and the Edison Electric Institute, changes and clarifications were incorporated into the TP. Staff responses to these comments have been documented separately as an appendix to the draft TP now renamed "Staff Technical Position on Investigations to Identify Fault Displacement and Seismic Hazards at a Geologic Repository."

10 CFR Part 60 does not specify the manner in which potential fault displacement and seismic hazards at a candidate site for a geologic repository are to be investigated. Therefore, the Division of High-Level Waste Management has developed this STP in order to provide DOE with guidance on appropriate

geologic repository investigations that can be used to identify fault displacement and seismic hazards. The NRC staff considers that a deterministic approach to investigations of fault displacement and seismic phenomena should be applied to DOE's site characterization program. Further, the staff considers that the approach taken in this STP to investigations of fault displacement and seismic phenomena is appropriate for the collection of sufficient data for input to analyses of the fault displacement and seismic hazards, both for the preclosure and postclosure periods of performance.

Finally, the STP introduces the concept of "susceptible" faults and describes an approach through which susceptible faults can be identified and characterized.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 6 day of May, 1991.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission



B.J. Youngblood, Director
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards