

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT TECHNICAL POSITION ON
REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS IN THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
OF THE EXPLORATORY SHAFT FACILITY

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is announcing the availability of the "Draft Technical Position on Regulatory Considerations in the Design and Construction of the Exploratory Shaft Facility."

DATE: The comment period expires (insert the date 60 days after publication.)

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Chief, Regulatory Publications Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Copies of this document may be obtained free of charge upon written request to Wendy D'Souza, Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate, Division of High-Level Waste Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop

ENCLOSURE

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4-H-3, Washington, DC 20555, Telephone 1/800/368-5642, Ext. 20440. Local callers should dial 301/492-0439.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Lee, Project Manager, Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate, Division of High-Level Waste Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Telephone 301/492-0421.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NRC's Division of High-Level Waste Management is issuing this draft Technical Position to provide regulatory guidance to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on an approach acceptable to the NRC staff for consideration of requirements in 10 CFR Part 60 related to the exploratory shaft facility (ESF) for a potential high-level radioactive waste repository. The Technical Position covers topics that include certain aspects of the design control process; coordination of ESF design with design of the geologic repository operations area (GROA), consideration of alternatives, excavation methods, test interference, and site characterization. The positions and discussion in this Technical Position are based on the premise that the ESF will eventually become a part of a future GROA. Therefore, all 10 CFR Part 60 requirements applicable to the GROA design are considered applicable to the ESF design. This Technical Position also gives the specific guidelines by which the NRC can assess DOE's work on the ESF design and documents related thereto.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 6th day of July, 1990.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission

RE Browning
Robert E. Browning, Director
Division of High-Level Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards