

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
AVAILABILITY OF STAFF TECHNICAL POSITION ON
THE INVESTIGATION OF FAULT DISPLACEMENT HAZARDS
AND SEISMIC HAZARDS AT A GEOLOGIC REPOSITORY

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is announcing the availability of NUREG-1451, "Staff Technical Position (STP) on Investigations to Identify Fault Displacement Hazards and Seismic Hazards at a Geologic Repository."

ADDRESSES: Copies of NUREG-1451, including the staff disposition of comments, can be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 37082, Washington, D.C. 20013-7082. Copies are also available from the National Technical Information Service, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161. A copy of NUREG-1451 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: Anne E. Garcia, Repository Licensing and Quality Assurance Project Directorate, Division of High-Level Waste Management Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. Telephone 301/504-2438.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: 10 CFR Part 60 does not specify the manner in which potential fault displacement hazards and seismic hazards at a candidate site for a geologic repository are to be identified. The purpose of this STP, therefore, is to provide guidance to the DOE on acceptable geologic repository

investigations that can be used to identify fault displacement hazards and seismic hazards. The staff considers that the approach this STP takes to investigations of fault displacement and seismic phenomena is appropriate for the collection of sufficient data for input to analyses of fault displacement hazards and seismic hazards, both for the preclosure and postclosure performance periods. However, detailed analyses of fault displacement and seismic data, such as those required for comprehensive assessments of repository performance, may identify the need for additional investigations.

Guidance on methods of analysis of fault displacement hazards and seismic hazards at a geologic repository is being developed separately.

On August 24, 1989, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission published, in the Federal Register, 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). Approximately 40 comments were received from three different parties. On December 19-20, 1989, the staff conducted a technical exchange with DOE, the State of Nevada, and DOE program participants to discuss the intent of the draft TP and related topics. Following the December 1989 technical exchange, and a review of the public comments, significant changes and clarifications were incorporated into the draft TP. (Staff responses to the public comments were documented separately as an appendix to the draft TP.)

On February 20, 1991, the NRC staff conducted a second technical exchange with DOE; the State of Nevada; Nye County, Nevada; and the Edison Electric Institute, to discuss the revised 1989 draft TP and the staff's response to public comments. In light of the additional comments received at the technical exchange, and because the revised TP contained significant revisions, the staff decided to make the revised TP available again for public comment.

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On May 13, 1991, NRC published the "Notice of Availability" for the draft TP in the Federal Register (see 56 FR 22020), now renamed "Staff Technical Position on Investigations to Identify Fault Displacement and Seismic Hazards at a Geologic Repository" and solicited public comments. As a result, more than 80 comments were received from five different parties. The NRC staff reviewed these comments and, as a result, changes and clarifications were incorporated into the STP. Staff responses to these comments are documented separately as Appendix E to NUREG-1451.

On December 18, 1991, the NRC staff briefed the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) on the revised STP following the end of the public comment period. As a result, the staff received a number of comments from the ACNW. The staff's responses to these comments are documented separately, as Appendix F to NUREG-1451.

Also included in NUREG-1451 is the staff response to a set of comments, dated February 27, 1990, submitted by DOE after the December 19-20, 1989, technical exchange. These comments were considered, along with the public comments made on the May 1991 draft STP. Staff responses to DOE's February 1991 comments are documented separately, as Appendix D to NUREG-1451.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 2th day of June, 1992.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission



Robert M. Bernero, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards