

July 31, 2009

ALL STATE LIAISON OFFICERS  
ALL AGREEMENT AND NON-AGREEMENT STATES

PROPOSED RULE REVISIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REGULATIONS  
AND REVISED GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR NUCLEAR POWER  
PLANT LICENSE RENEWALS (FSME-09-064)

**Purpose:** To provide information about 1) the subject proposed rule revisions and generic environmental impact statement, which will include the number and scope of environmental impact issues that must be addressed in a nuclear power plant license renewal review, and 2) related upcoming public meetings.

**Discussion:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) intends to publish on July 31, 2009, a proposed rule for comment in the *Federal Register (FR)* that would amend Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)* Part 51, "Environmental Protection Regulations for Domestic Licensing and Related Regulatory Functions;" comments are due 75 days from the date of publication (see *FR* link at [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/fedreg/frcont09.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/frcont09.html)).

The objective of the proposed rule is to update the NRC's original findings in Table B-1, "Summary of Findings on National Environmental Policy Act Issues for License Renewal of Nuclear Power Plants," of Appendix B to Subpart A of 10 CFR Part 51. Table B-1 provides a concise summary of the findings of the "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," NUREG-1437 (May 1996). In the introductory paragraph of Appendix B to Subpart A of Part 51, the Commission stated that it intends to review the assessment of impacts in the Generic Environmental Impact Statement and update it on a 10-year cycle, if necessary. This proposed rulemaking is a part of that review and the proposed amendments redefine the number and scope of those environmental issues that must be addressed as part of a license renewal application and those that may be addressed generically.

Additionally, the NRC plans to hold public meetings beginning September 15 through October 1, 2009, in Atlanta, Georgia; Newton, Massachusetts; Westlake Village, California; Oak Brook, Illinois; and Rockville, Maryland, where members of the public will have an opportunity to comment on the documents. The October 1 meeting at NRC headquarters in Rockville, Maryland will be web-streamed. Detailed information about participation in the public meetings will be provided separately via NRC Press Release.

If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact the individuals below.

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**  
Mark R. Shaffer, Director  
Division of Intergovernmental Liaison  
and Rulemaking  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

Enclosures:

1. *Federal Register* Notice
2. Regulatory Analysis

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