

October 15, 2010

ALL STATE LIAISON OFFICERS

NOTIFICATION OF A SERIES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS RELATED TO POTENTIAL REVISIONS TO THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S RADIATION PROTECTION REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE (FSME-10-089)

Purpose: To inform the Governor-appointed State Liaison Officers about an opportunity to participate in public meetings sponsored by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) concerning potential revisions to the NRC's radiation protection regulations and guidance in light of recommendations presented in International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) Publication 103 (2007). The NRC plans to transcribe the meetings, which will be in the format of facilitated roundtable workshops. In a letter dated October 7, 2010, (FSME-10-087) NRC staff encouraged Agreement States and their licensees to attend and participate in any of the three workshops.

Background: In December 2008, NRC staff provided a Policy Issue Notation Vote Paper to the Commission outlining the options of moving, or not moving, NRC's radiation protection regulations and guidance towards a greater degree of alignment with the recommendations contained in ICRP Publication 103. In a Staff Requirements Memorandum (SRM), dated April 2, 2009, the Commission approved the staff's recommendation to immediately begin engagement with stakeholders and interested parties to ascertain the benefits, burdens, and potential stakeholder impacts if any revisions are made to NRC's current radiation protection regulations and guidance. The facilitated roundtable workshops discussed in this letter are part of the NRC's staff ongoing stakeholder engagement process.

Discussion: On Sept 27, 2010, the NRC published a *Federal Register* Notice (FRN) (75 FR 59160) announcing a series of three public meetings related to potential changes to NRC's radiation protection regulations and guidance in light of recommendations presented in ICRP Publication 103 (2007). The meetings will be in the format of facilitated roundtable workshops. The FRN also solicits stakeholder input on major staff-identified technical issues, options, and questions related to this effort. Each workshop will include a panel of participants, selected to represent the diversity of stakeholders for various licensed uses of radioactive material, including power reactors, fuel cycle, industrial radiography, well logging, source manufacturers, various medical specialties, professional medical organizations, universities, laboratories, and other types of licensees and interested members of the public. The panel will engage in facilitator-lead roundtable discussions on the technical issues, options, and questions presented in the FRN. The agenda for each workshop will specifically include opportunities for viewpoints to be expressed from individuals in attendance who are not members of the panel. The Washington, DC workshop will include two days of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 20 related issues, and a third day devoted to power reactor issues in the parallel consideration of possible changes to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix I. The Los Angeles, California and Houston, Texas workshops will be two day meetings, and will be conducted in a manner similar to the first two days of the Washington, DC workshop. The Organization of Agreement States and the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors have agreed to have a representative as a panel member at each of the three workshops, to provide State perspectives and viewpoints.

The locations and dates of the workshops are as follows:

Washington, DC Meeting (Power Reactor Session on October 27, 2010)

October 25 - 27, 2010

Crown Plaza Silver Spring

8777 Georgia Avenue

Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Telephone Number: (301) 589-0800

Los Angeles Meeting

November 3 - 4, 2010

Four Points by Sheraton Los Angeles International Airport

9750 Airport Boulevard

Los Angeles, California 90045

Telephone Number: (310) 645-4600

Houston Meeting

November 8 - 9, 2010

Houston Marriott North at Greenspoint

255 North Sam Houston Parkway East

Houston, Texas 77060

Telephone Number: (281) 875-4000

The Commission believes that comments and feedback from stakeholders and interested parties will help identify and quantify the potential impact of any proposed changes to NRC's radiation protection regulations and guidance. The comments and feedback will also help inform NRC staff as potential regulatory actions are developed. The NRC staff will present a Commission Paper outlining rulemaking options to the Commission in late 2011, based, in part, on feedback and comments from stakeholders and interested parties. The NRC will continue to receive comments from stakeholders and interested parties related to this topic until January 31, 2010. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the NRC is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before the deadline.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me at (301) 415-7278 the individuals named below:

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Enclosure:
Draft Workshop Agenda

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Enclosure:
 Draft Workshop Agenda

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