

NRC NEWS

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NRC Public Meetings July 17 to Discuss Environmental Review of Proposed Wisconsin Radioisotope Production Facility

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold two public meetings July 17 in Janesville, Wis., to discuss the environmental review of an application by SHINE Medical Technologies Inc. for a permit to construct a facility to produce medical radioisotopes.

NRC staff members will present an overview of the environmental review process and take comments from the public on the scope of issues that should be covered by the review. The July 17 meetings will be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at the Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Drive in Janesville. NRC staff will hold an open house for an hour before each meeting to meet informally with interested members of the public.

SHINE submitted a partial application for the facility on March 26, including its environmental report. The NRC staff has reviewed the partial application and concluded it is sufficient to docket and begin formal safety and environmental reviews. In separate notices published July 1 in the *Federal Register*, the NRC announced the <u>docketing</u> and its intention to prepare an <u>environmental impact statement</u>. SHINE submitted the remainder of the application May 31. Once the NRC determines that information is sufficiently complete, the agency will publish a notice of opportunity to request a hearing.

SHINE proposes to produce molybdenum-99 using a particle accelerator to induce fission from low-enriched uranium without reaching criticality. Mo-99 is used in medicine to produce technecium-99m, an isotope used in thousands of diagnostic procedures annually in the United States.

Comments on the scope of the environmental impact statement will be accepted through Aug. 30. Complete instructions for submitting comments are in the *Federal Register* notice. They may be submitted over the federal government's rulemaking website, www.regulations.gov, using Docket ID NRC-2013-0053.