

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-609; NRC-2013-0235]

Northwest Medical Isotopes, LLC

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Intent to conduct scoping process and prepare an environmental impact statement; public meeting and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will conduct a scoping process to gather the information necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental impacts for construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed Northwest Medical Isotopes, LLC (NWMI) radioisotope production facility. The NRC is seeking stakeholder input on this action and has scheduled a public meeting.

DATES: Submit comments by **[INSERT DATE 45 DAYS FROM PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Web site:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2013-0235**. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher;

telephone: 301-415-3463; e-mail: Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.

- **Mail comments to:** Cindy Bladey, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: OWFN-12-H08, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

For additional direction on obtaining information and submitting comments, see “Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments” in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Martinez, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC, 20555-0001; telephone: 301-415-2719; e-mail: Nancy.Martinez@nrc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Obtaining Information and Submitting Comments

A. Obtaining Information

Please refer to Docket ID **NRC-2013-0235** when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may access information related to this document, which the NRC possesses and is publicly available, by any of the following methods:

- **Federal Rulemaking Web site:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID **NRC-2013-0235**.

- **NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):** You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select “[ADAMS Public](#)

[Documents](#)” and then select “[Begin Web-based ADAMS Search](#).” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The environmental report (ER) is available in ADAMS under Accession Nos. ML15086A265, ML15086A268, ML15086A269, ML15086A270, and ML15086A271, respectively.

- **NRC’s PDR:** You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC’s PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

B. Submitting Comments

Please include Docket ID **NRC-2013-0235** in the subject line of your comment submission, in order to ensure that the NRC is able to make your comment submission available to the public in this docket.

The NRC cautions you not to include identifying or contact information that you do not want to be publicly disclosed in your comment submission. The NRC posts all comment submissions at <http://www.regulations.gov> as well as entering the comment submissions into ADAMS. The NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove identifying or contact information.

If you are requesting or aggregating comments from other persons for submission to the NRC, then you should inform those persons not to include identifying or contact information that they do not want to be publicly disclosed in their comment submission. Your request should state that the NRC does not routinely edit comment submissions to remove such information before making the comment submissions available to the public or entering the comment submissions into ADAMS.

II. Discussion

On November 7, 2014, NWMI filed with the NRC, pursuant to Section 103 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and part 50 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), a portion (part one) of an application for a construction permit for a medical radioisotope production facility at the Discovery Ridge Research Park in Columbia, Missouri. By letter dated February 5, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15086A262), NWMI withdrew and resubmitted this portion of their construction permit application (ADAMS Accession No. ML15086A261) to include a discussion of connected actions in their ER in response to a letter from the NRC (ADAMS Accession No. ML14349A501). A separate notice of receipt and availability for part one of the application was published in the *Federal Register* on April 21, 2015 (80 FR 22227). A notice of acceptance for docketing for part one of the application was published in the *Federal Register* on June 8, 2015 (80 FR 32418).

By letter dated July 20, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15210A182), NWMI submitted part two of the construction permit application which includes the Integrated Safety Analysis Summary and the remaining sections of the construction permit application as required by 10 CFR 50.34(a). A separate notice of receipt and availability for part 2 of the application and a separate notice of acceptance for docketing of part 2 of the application will be published in the *Federal Register*.

An exemption from certain requirements of 10 CFR 2.101(a)(5) was granted by the Commission on October 7, 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13238A333), in response to a letter from NWMI dated August 9, 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13227A295), allowing for NWMI to submit its construction permit application in two parts.

III. Request for Comments

This notice informs the public of the NRC's intention to prepare an EIS related to the review of the construction permit application and to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the environmental scoping process, as defined in 10 CFR 51.29.

The regulations in 36 CFR 800.8, "Coordination with the National Environmental Policy Act," allows agencies to use their National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) process to fulfill the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Therefore, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC intends to use its process and documentation for the preparation of the EIS on the proposed action to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA in lieu of the procedures set forth at 36 CFR 800.3 through 36 CFR 800.6.

The NRC intends to gather the information necessary to prepare an EIS to evaluate the environmental impacts for construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed NWMI radioisotope production facility. The proposed construction will include space for 10 CFR Part 70 operational activities. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (construction and operation of the proposed NWMI facility) include no action, alternative sites, and alternative technologies to produce radioisotopes. This notice is being published in accordance with NEPA and the NRC's regulations found at 10 CFR Part 51.

The NRC will first conduct a scoping process for the EIS and, as soon as practicable thereafter, will prepare a draft EIS for public comment. Participation in the scoping process by members of the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal government agencies is encouraged. The scoping process for the EIS will be used to accomplish the following:

- a. Define the proposed action, which is to be the subject of the EIS;
- b. Determine the scope of the EIS and identify the significant issues to be analyzed in depth;

- c. Identify and eliminate from detailed study those issues that are peripheral or that are not significant;
- d. Identify any environmental assessments and other EISs that are being or will be prepared that are related to, but are not part of, the scope of the EIS being considered;
- e. Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements related to the proposed action;
- f. Indicate the relationship between the timing of the preparation of the environmental analyses and the Commission's tentative planning and decision-making schedule;
- g. Identify any cooperating agencies and, as appropriate, allocate assignments for preparation, and schedules for completing the EIS to the NRC and any cooperating agencies; and
- h. Describe how the EIS will be prepared and include any contractor assistance to be used.

The NRC invites the following entities to participate in scoping:

- a. The applicant, NWMI;
- b. Any Federal agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved or that is authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards;
- c. Affected State and local government agencies, including those authorized to develop and enforce relevant environmental standards;
- d. Any affected Indian tribe;
- e. Any person who requests or has requested an opportunity to participate in the scoping process; and
- f. Any person who has petitioned or intends to petition for leave to intervene.

IV. Public Meeting

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.26, the scoping process for an EIS may include a public scoping meeting to help identify significant issues related to a proposed activity and to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an EIS. The NRC has decided to hold a public meeting for the NWMI environmental review on December 8, 2015. The meeting will begin with an open house from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m., followed by an NRC presentation and opportunity to hear public comments from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., as necessary. The public meeting will be at the Holiday Inn Columbia-East, 915 Port Way, Columbia, MO 65201.

The meeting will be transcribed and will include: 1) an overview by the NRC staff of the NEPA environmental review process, the proposed scope of the EIS, and the proposed review schedule; and 2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to submit comments or suggestions on the environmental issues or the proposed scope of the EIS. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions during the open house one hour prior to the start of each session at the same location. No formal comments on the proposed scope of the EIS will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meeting or in writing, as discussed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Persons may register to attend or present oral comments at the meeting on the scope of the NEPA review by contacting the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Nancy Martinez, by telephone at 800-368-5642, ext. 2719, or by e-mail at Nancy.Martinez@nrc.gov, no later than December 1, 2015. Members of the public may also register to speak at the meeting within 15 minutes of the start of the meeting. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. Members of the public who have not registered may also have an opportunity to speak if time permits. Public comments will be

considered in the scoping process for the EIS. Please contact Nancy Martinez no later than December 1, 2015, if accommodations or special equipment are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting so that the NRC staff can determine whether the request can be accommodated.

Participation in the scoping process for the EIS does not entitle participants to become parties to the proceeding to which the EIS relates. Matters related to participation in any hearing are outside the scope of matters to be discussed at this public meeting. The notice of acceptance for docketing of the application and a description of the hearing process will be published separately in the *Federal Register*.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of November, 2015.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

/RA/

David J. Wrona, Chief,
Environmental Review
and Guidance Update Branch,
Division of License Renewal,
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.