

to (1) describe the licensee's planned activities, (2) describe the regulatory process for decommissioning, (3) hear public comments regarding health and safety, and protection of the environment during decommissioning, and (4) provide an opportunity for State and local representatives to participate. The licensee will discuss their plans to decommission the Maine Yankee facility. The NRC will discuss the PSDAR and the license termination process, and describe the program for future plant oversight. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the PSDAR and the meeting will be transcribed by a court reporter. Notice of receipt of and availability for public comment of the Maine Yankee PSDAR was published in the **Federal Register** on September 19, 1997 (62 FR 49261). Prior to the public meeting, comments regarding the Maine Yankee PSDAR may be submitted in writing to Mr. Michael Webb, Mail Stop 11-B-20, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of October 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Ronald B. Eaton,**

*Acting Director, Project Directorate I-3,  
Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of  
Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Information to Licensees Regarding NRC Inspection Manual Section on Resolution of Degraded and Nonconforming Conditions; Issue

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has issued Generic Letter 91-18, Revision 1 to notify all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors and non-power reactors, including those power reactor licensees who have permanently ceased operations and have certified that fuel has been permanently removed from the reactor vessel, and non-power reactor licensees whose licenses no longer authorize operation, of the issuance of a revised section of Part 9900, "Technical Guidance," of the NRC inspection manual. This generic letter is for information only; no specific action or written response is required. Conformance with the guidance

provided in the generic letter is voluntary.

This generic letter is a "rule" for purposes of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (5 U.S.C., Chapter 8). The staff has received confirmation from the Office of Management and Budget that the generic letter is not a "major rule".

The generic letter is available in the NRC Public Document Room under accession number 9710060322.

**DATES:** The generic letter was issued on October 8, 1997.

**ADDRESSEES:** Not applicable.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Eileen M. McKenna at (301) 415-2189.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The revised section of Part 9900 of the NRC inspection manual is entitled "Resolution of Degraded and Nonconforming Conditions." The revisions to this section more explicitly discuss the role of the 10 CFR 50.59 evaluation process in the resolution of degraded and nonconforming conditions. In particular, a change in NRC staff guidance is addressed which states that the need to obtain NRC approval for the final resolution of a degraded or nonconforming condition does not affect the licensee's authority to continue facility operation (or effect a restart from a shutdown condition), provided that necessary equipment is operable and the degraded equipment is not in conflict with any technical specification. Nevertheless, it is noted that the NRC will take enforcement action if it determines that licensee corrective action (which may include the submittal of a license amendment request) is not prompt, or that operability determinations are not sound. Enforcement action may also be taken for the circumstances that led to the existence of the degraded or nonconforming condition.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of October 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Jack W. Roe,**

*Acting Director, Division of Reactor Program  
Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor  
Regulation.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Planning and Procedures will hold a meeting on November 5, 1996, Room T-2B1, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance, with the exception of a portion that may be closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (2) and (6) to discuss organizational and personnel matters that relate solely to internal personnel rules and practices of ACRS, and matters the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows: *Tuesday, November 5, 1996—12:00 noon until 1:30 p.m.*

The Subcommittee will discuss proposed ACRS activities and related matters. It may also discuss the qualifications of candidates for appointment to the ACRS and the status of appointment of new members to the ACRS. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman; written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Subcommittee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff person named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, the scheduling of sessions open to the public, whether the meeting has been cancelled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements, and the time allotted therefor can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff person, Dr. John T. Larkins (telephone: 301/415-7360) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EDT). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual one or two working days prior to the meeting to be advised