

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Department of Energy; Public Meeting on NRC Regulatory Oversight of DOE Facilities**

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will hold a public meeting on Thursday, December 11, 1997, in Oakland, California, to address issues related to the recently established pilot program for NRC's external regulation of certain DOE facilities.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a joint public meeting to provide information on this pilot project on Thursday, December 11, 1997, at 7:00 P.M. in Room N1-7 in the North Tower of the Oakland Federal Building, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, California.

In June 1997, DOE and NRC agreed to pursue NRC external regulation of certain DOE facilities on a pilot program basis. A pilot program of NRC simulated regulation has been established to collect information on the desirability of NRC oversight and on whether to seek legislation to authorize such oversight. The DOE and the NRC expect to evaluate six to ten DOE facilities over the next two years under the pilot program. The Ernest O. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) has been chosen as one of the pilot sites.

The major areas of discussion at this meeting will be:

- The overall pilot program and background information.
- The LBNL Work Plan.
- Major issues affecting NRC oversight (generic and site-specific).

One of the main purposes of the meeting is to describe the process through which stakeholders may participate in the pilot program. Stakeholders will be invited to ask questions and submit comments relevant to the objectives of the pilot program and the process by which those objectives are proposed to be addressed at the Berkeley Laboratory. Issues raised by stakeholders will be addressed in the final report following the pilot evaluation at Berkeley. If you plan to attend this meeting, or if you cannot attend but would like to bring an issue to our attention, please contact Ms. Carol Powell at 510/637-1814.

Since 1994, the Department of Energy (DOE) has been considering whether

there are advantages to be gained from external regulation of existing DOE facilities. Two advisory groups recommended that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) be considered as the external regulator of nuclear and radiological safety at DOE sites. External regulation by the NRC may improve the efficiency and effectiveness of DOE's radiological safety programs. DOE facilities would be regulated consistent with other facilities of the same type engaged in similar activities, and the NRC could maintain complete independence because it has no responsibility for operating the facilities.

A number of background documents pertaining to the issue of NRC oversight of DOE facilities are available or will be made available prior to the meeting. These include:

- A Memorandum of Understanding between NRC and DOE, dated November 21, 1997.
- An NRC Commission Paper entitled, "Status Report of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Task Force On Oversight of the Department of Energy, In Response to COMSECY-96-053-DSI 2 (SECY-97-206) dated September 12, 1997.
- NRC Staff Requirements Memorandum: COMSECY-96-053, "Oversight of the Department of Energy (DSI 2)," dated March 28, 1997.
- NRC Direction Setting Issue Paper "Oversight of the Department of Energy" (DSI 2) dated September 16, 1996.
- Report of the DOE Working Group on External Regulation, dated December 1996.
- Report of the DOE Advisory Committee on External Regulation of DOE Nuclear Safety, dated December 1995.

You may obtain copies of these documents by contacting Carol Powell at the Department of Energy, telephone number 510-637-1814, or from the joint DOE/NRC Web Site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/NMSS/doepilot.html>. As additional documents are completed they will be added to the web site.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 24 day of November, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Carl J. Paperiello,

Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 97-31422 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**Budget Analysis Branch; Sequestration Final Report**

AGENCY: Office of Management and Budget—Budget Analysis Branch.

ACTION: Notice of transmittal of Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 254(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Control Act of 1985, as amended, the Office of Management and Budget hereby reports that it has submitted its Final Sequestration Report to the President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alicia Kolaian, Budget Analysis Branch—202/395-4575.

Dated: November 26, 1997.

Sarah B. Richardson,

Public Information Officer, Office of Management and Budget.

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UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**Sunshine Act Meeting**

TIMES AND DATES: 1:00 p.m., Monday, December 8, 1997; 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 9, 1997.

PLACE: Costa Mesa, California, at the Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel, 686 Anton Boulevard, in the Santa Ana Room.

STATUS: December 8 (Closed); December 9 (Open).

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Monday, December 8—1:00 p.m. (Closed)

1. Audit Committee Report and Review of Year-End Financial Statements.
2. Strategic Outsourcing.
3. A Strategic Alliance Program.

Tuesday, December 9—8:30 a.m. (Open)

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting, November 3-4, 1997.
2. Remarks of the Postmaster General/Chief Executive Officer.
3. Semiannual Report to Congress on Summary of Investigative Activities [Actions Under 39 U.S.C. 3005 and 3007].
4. Fiscal Year 1997 Audited Financial Statements.
5. Fiscal Year 1997 Annual Report of the Postmaster General.