

Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 10th day of November 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 99-30109 Filed 11-18-99; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Power Reactor Decommissioning; Entombment; Workshop;

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Announcement of workshop on power reactor entombment.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a workshop from 9:00 am-4:00 pm December 14-15, 1999, to discuss the feasibility of entombment as a reactor decommissioning option. The workshop will be held in the TWFN Auditorium of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An information paper discussing the technical feasibility of entombment as a decommissioning option for power reactors was given to the Commission (SECY-99-187) on July 19, 1999. The information paper is available on the NRC public website and can be viewed at www.nrc.gov/NRC/COMMISSION/SECYS/index.html. The information paper provides the staff's assessment of the viability of the entombment option for decommissioning power reactors. The staff informed the Commission that, as a next step in considering entombment as a decommissioning option, they intend to conduct a workshop in the near future. The purpose of this workshop is to obtain public comment on the issues associated with considering entombment on an equal basis with other decommissioning alternatives. Issues that the NRC proposes to discuss include:

1. How meaningful are the assumptions in the PNNL report that institutional controls will be effective?

2. Does the PNNL analysis rely too much on long term engineering features that would be needed for entombment? What criteria would be used for approving a licensee's request for using the entombment option, and what quantitative values could be examined for establishing the high degree of

contaminant isolation confidence that would be considered acceptable?

3. What financial provisions would be required to pay for the future expenses that could be expected during the time when restrictions for the entombment must be maintained?

4. How significant would the entombment option be on State resources if it were implemented?

5. If new legislation were required for disposing of the GTCC waste through the entombment option, is it worth pursuing? Is the current legislation consistent with what has been implemented by the NRC for LLW disposal of GTCC waste for case-specific circumstances, including considerations of eventual license termination? What is the role of DOE with respect to the GTCC waste considerations?

6. Is entombment consistent with the LLW Policy Act, which encourages centralized disposal and the encouragement of regional compacts, as well as economic incentives through exclusivity by only permitting disposal of LLW in a 10 CFR Part 61 licensed facility?

7. What is the opinion of the States on the entombment option? Is the possibility of ultimate or long term management by the State a concern?

8. Is there any indication of the number of licensees intending to use the entombment option?

The workshop agenda will be posted on the NRC Web site at www.nrc.gov/RES/meetings.html by November 19, 1999. Interested persons are invited to attend the meeting. Anyone interested in making a presentation at the workshop should contact the individual listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Carl Feldman, Radiation Protection, Environmental Risk and Waste Management Branch, Division of Risk Analysis and Applications, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, telephone (301) 415-6194.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of November 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Cheryl A. Trottier,

Chief, Radiation Protection, Environmental Risk and Waste Management Branch, Division of Risk Analysis and Applications, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

National State Liaison Officers' Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will sponsor a national meeting on December 1 and 2, 1999 with the State Liaison Officers to discuss items of mutual regulatory interest. The State Liaison Officers are appointed by the Governors of the fifty States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to provide a communication channel between the States and the NRC.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 1999 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, December 2, 1999 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

ADDRESSES: The meeting is to be held at the NRC's Two White Flint North Building Auditorium, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Spiros C. Droggitis, Office of State Programs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Telephone (301) 415-2367, FAX (301) 415-3502; Internet (SCD@NRC.GOV).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Potential topics of discussion will include: the effect of the electric utility industry restructuring on nuclear power plant regulation; the new NRC reactor inspection and oversight program and the status of the pilot program; continued State involvement at nuclear power plants undergoing decommissioning and other nuclear power plant decommissioning issues; nuclear materials issues; external regulation of the U.S. Department of Energy; spent fuel storage and transportation issues, and other nuclear waste issues.

The meeting will be conducted in a manner that will expedite the orderly conduct of business. The following procedures apply to public attendance at the meeting:

1. Questions or statements from attendees other than State and NRC staff participants will be entertained as time permits; and

2. Seating for the public will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 11th day of November, 1999.