

Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and accessible electronically through the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>). If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) The nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner

must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, by the above date. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to Kevin P. Gallen, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, 1800 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036-5869, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated September 20, 2000, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland, and accessible electronically through the ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room link at the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov>).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 26th day of September, 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Jon B. Hopkins,**

*Senior Project Manager, Section 2, Project Directorate III, Division of Licensing Project Management, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Reactor Oversight Process Initial Implementation Evaluation Panel

**AGENCY:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of establishment of the Reactor Oversight Process Initial Implementation Evaluation Panel.

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**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of October 6, 1972 (Pub. L., 94-463, Stat. 770-776) the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) announces the Establishment of the Reactor Oversight Process Initial Implementation Evaluation Panel (IIEP). The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has determined that establishment of the Panel is necessary and is in the public interest in order to obtain advice and recommendations on the revised reactor oversight process (ROP). This action is being taken in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act after consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration (GSA).

*Background:* The ROP for commercial reactors is described in NRC Inspection Manual Chapter 2515. Information on the development of the ROP is contained in Commission papers SECY-99-007, "Recommendations For Reactor Oversight Process Improvements," dated January 8, 1999, SECY-99-007A, "Recommendations For Reactor Oversight Process Improvements (Follow-up to SECY-99-007)," dated March 22, 1999, and SECY-00-049, "Results of the Revised Reactor Oversight Process Pilot Program," dated February 24, 2000.

These Commission papers describe the scope and content of performance indicator reporting, a new risk-informed baseline inspection program, a new assessment process, and revisions to the enforcement policy. Commission paper SECY-00-049 also describes the results from the Pilot Program Evaluation Panel (a previous Federal Advisory Committees Act (FACA) panel), including a recommendation from the panel to proceed with initial implementation of the ROP at all power reactor facilities. On March 28, 2000, the Commission approved initial implementation of the ROP, and on May 17, 2000, the Commission directed the NRC staff to convene another evaluation panel under FACA to evaluate the first year of implementation of the ROP. The staff has established this IIEP in response to the Commission's directions.

The IIEP will function as a cross-disciplinary oversight group to independently monitor and evaluate the results of the first year of implementation of the ROP and provide advice and recommendations to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation on reforming and revising the ROP. The IIEP will provide a written report containing an overall evaluation of the ROP to the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. Meetings of the Panel will be publically announced in advance, open to the public, and all material reviewed placed in the public document room. A meeting summary will be prepared following each meeting to document the results of the meeting.

The Panel membership will include participants from NRC headquarters and regional offices, a representative from the Nuclear Energy Institute, reactor licensee management representatives, a representative from the Union of Concerned Scientists (a public interest group), and representatives from State Governments.

The establishment of the Panel will be effective with the filing of its charter with the standing committees of Congress having legislative jurisdiction over the NRC, the Library of Congress, and GSA.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew L. Bates, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555; Telephone 301-415-1963.

Dated: September 26, 2000.

**Andrew L. Bates,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Fire Protection; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Fire Protection will hold a meeting on October 16 (Room T-2B3) and 17 (Room T-2B1), 2000, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

*Monday, October 16, 2000—8:30 a.m.*

*until the conclusion of business*

*Tuesday, October 17, 2000—8:30 a.m.*

*until the conclusion of business*

The Subcommittee will review the revised draft NFPA 805 Performance Standard for Fire Protection for Light water Reactor Electric Generating Plants, Draft Regulatory Guide on Fire Protection for Operating Nuclear Power Plants, post-fire safe shutdown circuit analysis, and other fire protection related issues. 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 engineer named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

During the initial portion of the meeting, the Subcommittee, along with any of its consultants who may be present, may exchange preliminary views regarding matters to be considered during the balance of the meeting.

The Subcommittee will then hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the NRC staff, and other interested persons regarding this review.

Further information regarding the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time for topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, and allotted therefor, can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff engineer, Mr. Amarjit Singh (telephone 301/415-

6899) 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 of any potential changes to the agenda, etc., that may have occurred.

Dated: September 26, 2000.

**James E. Lyons,**

*Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 40-8027]

### Decommissioning of Sequoyah Fuels Corporation Uranium Conversion Facility in Gore, Oklahoma: Notice of Intent To Conduct a Public Outreach Meeting for Sequoyah Fuels Uranium Conversion Facility

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent To Conduct a Public Outreach Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The NRC will conduct a meeting to discuss the status of the environmental review of decommissioning activities at the SFC facility near Gore, Oklahoma, and to obtain public comments on the environmental impacts that need to be addressed. Ample time will be provided for public comment at the meeting, although comments and questions will generally be limited to the remediation of the SFC facility. This meeting is part of the continuing process to keep affected stakeholders and the public informed of plans, schedules and important issues related to the remediation of the SFC facility.

**DATES:** The NRC will meet with the public on Tuesday, October 17, 2000, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Gore Junior High School cafeteria, 1200 Highway 10N, Gore, Oklahoma.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The NRC is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the decommissioning of the Sequoyah Fuels Corporation's (SFC) uranium conversion facility located in Gore, Oklahoma. From 1970 until 1993, SFC operated a uranium conversion facility at a site located in Gore, Oklahoma, under the authority of an NRC license issued pursuant to 10 CFR part 40. The main process was the conversion of uranium oxide (yellowcake) to uranium hexafluoride. A second process, begun