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For further information, contact the Office of Public Affairs, National Transportation Safety Board, 490 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Washington, DC 20594. Phone, 202-314-6100. Fax, 202-314-6110. Internet, www.nts.gov.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20555

Phone, 301-415-7000. Internet, www.nrc.gov.

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[For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission statement of organization, see the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Title 10, Part II]

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission licenses and regulates civilian use of nuclear energy to protect public health and safety and the environment. This is achieved by licensing persons and companies to build and operate nuclear reactors and other

facilities and to own and use nuclear materials. The Commission makes rules and sets standards for these types of licenses. It also carefully inspects the activities of the persons and companies licensed to ensure compliance with the safety rules of the Commission.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was established as an independent regulatory agency under the provisions of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5801 *et seq.*) and Executive Order 11834 of January 15, 1975. All licensing and related regulatory functions formerly assigned to the Atomic Energy Commission were transferred to the Commission.

The Commission's major program components are the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, and the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research. Headquarters offices are located in suburban Maryland, and there are four regional offices.

The Commission ensures that the civilian uses of nuclear materials and facilities are conducted in a manner consistent with the public health and safety, environmental quality, national security, and the antitrust laws. Most of the Commission's effort is focused on regulating the use of nuclear energy to generate electric power.

Activities

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is primarily responsible for the following functions:

- licensing the construction, operation, and closure of nuclear reactors and other nuclear facilities, such as nuclear fuel cycle facilities, low-level radioactive waste disposal sites under NRC jurisdiction, the geologic repository for high-level radioactive waste, and nonpower test and research reactors;
- licensing the possession, use, processing, handling, and export of nuclear material;
- licensing the operators of nuclear power and nonpower test and research reactors;
- inspecting licensed facilities and activities;
- conducting the U.S. Government research program on light-water reactor safety;

- developing and implementing rules and regulations that govern licensed nuclear activities;

- investigating nuclear incidents and allegations concerning any matter regulated by the NRC;

- maintaining the NRC Incident Response Program;

- collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information about the operational safety of commercial nuclear power reactors and certain nonreactor activities; and

- developing effective working relationships with the States regarding reactor operations and the regulation of nuclear material, and assuring that adequate regulatory programs are maintained by those States that exercise regulatory control over certain nuclear materials in the State.

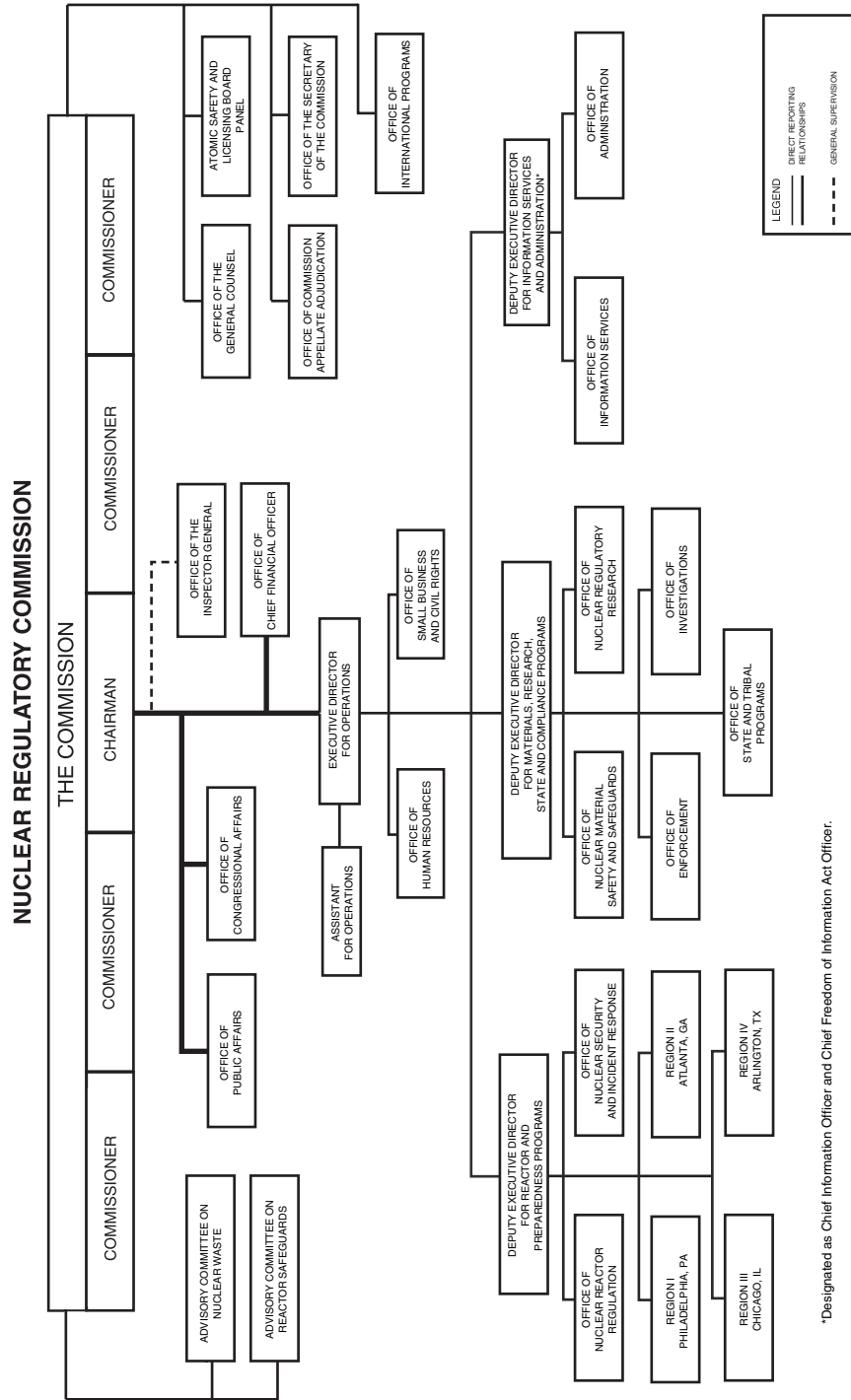
Sources of Information

Freedom of Information Act Requests

Requests for copies of records should be directed to the FOIA/Privacy Act Officer, Mail Stop T-5 F11, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Phone, 301-415-7169. Fax, 301-415-5130. Requests may also be submitted using the form on our Web site at www.nrc.gov.

Publications NRC publishes scientific, technical, and administrative information dealing with licensing and regulation of civilian nuclear facilities and materials, as well as periodic reports including the annual *Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences*, the annual *Accountability and Performance Report*, the quarterly *Licensee, Contractor, and Vendor Inspection Status Report*, the annual *NRC Information Digest*, the *NRC Strategic Plan*, and *Nuclear Regulatory Commission Issuances*.

Some publications and documents are available on the Internet, at www.nrc.gov. The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) and the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) sell



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single copies of, or subscriptions to, NRC publications. To obtain prices and order NRC publications, contact the Superintendent of Documents, GPO, Mail Stop SSOP, Washington, DC 20402-0001 (phone, 202-512-1800; Internet, bookstore.gpo.gov) or NTIS, Springfield, VA 22161-0002 (phone, 703-605-6000; Internet, www.ntis.gov).

Active *Regulatory Guides* may be obtained without charge by faxed request to 301-415-2289, by e-mail request to distribution@nrc.gov, or by written request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop O-P1 37, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Distribution. They may also be purchased, as they are issued, on standing orders from NTIS. These *Regulatory Guides* are published in 10 subject areas: power reactors, research and test reactors, fuels and materials facilities, environmental and siting, materials and plant protection, products, transportation, occupational health, antitrust and financial review, and general.

Draft Regulatory Guides are issued for public comment. These drafts may be downloaded from or commented on through the Internet, at <http://ruleforum.llnl.gov>. They may also be obtained, to the extent of supply, by faxed request to 301-415-2289, by e-mail request to distribution@nrc.gov, or by written request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop O-P1 37, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Distribution.

Reading Rooms The headquarters Public Document Room maintains an

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Selected regional libraries of the Government Printing Office Federal Depository Library Program maintain permanent microfiche collections of NRC documents released between January 1981 and October 1999. For further information, contact the Public Document Room at the phone number above.

For further information, contact the Office of Public Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Phone, 301-415-8200. Internet, www.nrc.gov. E-mail, opa@nrc.gov.

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