

matters related to the conduct of Committee activities and matters and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACRS meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on September 29, 2005 (70 FR 56936). In accordance with those procedures, oral or written views may be presented by members of the public, including representatives of the nuclear industry. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during the open portions of the meeting. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the Cognizant ACRS staff named below five days before the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made to allow necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during the meeting may be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for this purpose may be obtained by contacting the Cognizant ACRS staff prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACRS meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should check with the Cognizant ACRS staff if such rescheduling would result in major inconvenience.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, as well as the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefor can be obtained by contacting Mr. Sam Duraiswamy, Cognizant ACRS staff (301-415-7364), between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m., ET.

ACRS meeting agenda, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are available through the NRC Public Document Room at [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov), or by calling the PDR at 1-800-397-4209, or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS) which is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> or [http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/\(ACRS & ACNW Mtg schedules/agendas\)](http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/(ACRS & ACNW Mtg schedules/agendas)).

Videoteleconferencing service is available for observing open sessions of ACRS meetings. Those wishing to use this service for observing ACRS meetings should contact Mr. Theron Brown, ACRS Audio Visual Technician (301-415-8066), between 7:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m., ET, at least 10 days before the

meeting to ensure the availability of this service. Individuals or organizations requesting this service will be responsible for telephone line charges and for providing the equipment and facilities that they use to establish the videoteleconferencing link. The availability of videoteleconferencing services is not guaranteed.

Dated: February 17, 2006.

**Annette L. Vietti-Cook**,  
*Secretary of the Commission.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Notice of Availability of Documents Regarding Spent Fuel Transportation Package Response to the Caldecott Tunnel Fire Scenario

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Allen Hansen, Thermal Engineer, Criticality, Shielding and Heat Transfer Section, Spent Fuel Project Office, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20005-0001. Telephone: (301) 415-1390; fax number: (301) 415-8555; e-mail: [agh@nrc.gov](mailto:agh@nrc.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Introduction

Under contract with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory prepared a draft NUREG/CR report, "Spent Fuel Transportation Package Response to the Caldecott Tunnel Fire (CTF) Scenario." Highway tunnel fire accidents are very low frequency events, but can be severe, in terms of fire duration and peak temperatures. The CTF was chosen for the study because it represents a severe historical highway tunnel accident, even though it is a very low frequency event. This NUREG/CR documents the thermal analysis of one spent fuel transportation package, the NAC International Model No. LWT ("NAC LWT"), exposed to boundary conditions simulating the CTF scenario.

The results of this study strongly indicate that no spent nuclear fuel (SNF) particles or fission products would be released from the NAC LWT or a similar spent fuel shipping cask involved in a severe tunnel fire such as the Caldecott highway tunnel fire. The peak internal temperatures predicted for

the NAC LWT in the analysis of the CTF scenario were not high enough to result in rupture of the fuel cladding. Therefore, it would not be expected that any radioactive material (*i.e.*, SNF particles or fission products) would be released from within the fuel rods.

The maximum NAC LWT temperatures experienced in the regions of the lid, vent and drain ports exceeded the seals' rated service temperatures, making it theoretically possible for a small release to occur, due to CRUD that might spall off of the surfaces of the fuel rods. However, any release is expected to be very small due to a number of factors. These include: (1) The tight clearances maintained between the lid and cask body by the lid closure bolts; (2) the low pressure differential between the cask interior and the outside; (3) the tendency of the small clearances to plug; and (4) the tendency of CRUD particles to settle or plate out. The potential releases calculated in Chapter 8 of this report for the NAC LWT truck cask indicate that the release of CRUD from the cask, if any, would be very small—less than an A<sub>2</sub> quantity.

##### II. Summary

The purpose of this notice is to provide the public an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft NUREG/CR thermal analysis, the consequence analyses and the conclusions.

##### III. Further Information

The document related to this action is available on-line at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/docs4comment.html>. In addition, a copy of this document has been posted electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this site, you can access the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS), which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. The ADAMS accession number for the document related to this notice is ML060330028. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the document located in ADAMS, contact the NRC Public Document Room (PDR) Reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to [pdr@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr@nrc.gov).

This document may also be viewed electronically on the public computers located at the NRC's PDR, O 1 F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852. The PDR reproduction contractor will copy documents for a fee. Comments and questions on the draft NUREG/CR can be entered on-line or directed to the

NRC contact listed above by May 30, 2006. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but assurance of consideration cannot be given to comments received after this date.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 17 day of February, 2006.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Larry Campbell,**

*Chief, Criticality, Shielding and Heat Transfer Section, Spent Fuel Project Office, Office of Nuclear Material Safety, and Safeguards.*

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## POSTAL RATE COMMISSION

[Docket No. N2006-1; Order No. 1453]

### Postal Service Network Realignment

**AGENCY:** Postal Rate Commission.

**ACTION:** Order.

**SUMMARY:** This order informs the public that the Postal Service has filed a case with the Commission on the proposed realignment of the Nation's mail processing and transportation network. The realignment is expected to have an impact on delivery service standards. The order, among other things, addresses initial steps in the case, identifies key dates, and directs interested parties to the Commission's Web site for pertinent documents.

**DATES:** 1. March 17, 2006: Deadline for filing notices of intervention, answers to a combined motion on scheduling and special rules of practice, and requests for a hearing.

2. March 24, 2006: Prehearing conference (9:30 a.m.)

**ADDRESSES:** Submit documents electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephen L. Sharfman, general counsel, at 202-789-6818.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given that on February 14, 2006, the United States Postal Service filed a request with the Postal Rate Commission pursuant to section 3661 of the Postal Reorganization Act, 39 U.S.C. 101 *et seq.*, for an advisory opinion on anticipated changes in the application of current service standards to numerous 3-digit ZIP Code service area origin-destination pairs for different classes of mail.<sup>1</sup> The Postal Service states that these changes "are expected

to result from a system-wide review and realignment of the Postal Service's mail processing and transportation networks."<sup>2</sup>

The Postal Service's request states that it has determined to adopt a process for conducting an in-depth examination and reconfiguration of its mail processing and transportation networks during the next several years. As part of a centrally directed program, the Service anticipates that numerous mail processing and transportation changes will be proposed at the local level and submitted to Postal Service headquarters for approval. Because current service standards for mail delivery are based on logistical considerations, the Service expects that its planned network and transportation changes will result in determinations to adjust some of the service standards that now apply to numerous 3-digit ZIP Code area origin-destination pairs for various classes of mail. However, the Postal Service does not propose to change the ranges of days to delivery incorporated in current service standards for any class or subclass of mail.

The Postal Service's request is accompanied and supported by two pieces of testimony and eight library references. The request and all supporting materials are on file in the Commission's docket room for inspection during regular business hours, and are available on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>.

*Proposed procedural schedule and special rules of practice.* Also accompanying the Postal Service request is a motion for adoption of an expedited procedural schedule and of special rules of practice that would shorten procedural deadlines for interrogatory response, objections to interrogatories, and replies to motions.<sup>3</sup> The Service proposes a sequence of expedited deadlines for discovery, hearings, responsive testimony, and briefs in order to enable the Commission to issue an advisory opinion on its request no later than May 5, 2006. The earliest deadline in the proposed schedule would require a much shorter deadline for interventions that the norm in Commission proceedings. The Postal Service states that it proposes this procedural timetable because it "presently intends to implement the service changes resulting from the initial wave of operational changes

produced by its network realignment review program" on or about May 15, 2006.<sup>4</sup>

*Further procedures.* Section 3661(c) of title 39 requires that the Commission afford an opportunity for a formal, on-the-record hearing on the Postal Service's request under the terms specified in sections 556 and 557 of title 5 of the United States Code before issuing its advisory opinion. All interested parties are hereby notified that notices of intervention in this proceedings shall be due on March 17, 2006. Any participant requesting a hearing in this matter shall so state in conformance with 39 CFR 3001.20(b).

At this time, the Commission cannot anticipate the duration, or even the exact form, appropriate for proceedings on this matter. Participants who wish to offer their views on these issues may do so in their interventions. Additionally, responses to the Postal Service's motion for adoption of its proposed procedural schedule and special rules of practice shall be due on March 17, 2006. The Commission will hold a prehearing conference in this docket on March 24, 2006.

*Public participation.* Section 3661(c) of title 39 requires the participation of an "officer of the Commission who shall be required to represent the interest of the general public" in these proceedings. The Commission will designate an individual to perform this function in a separate order to be issued in the near future.

### Ordering Paragraphs

*It is ordered:*

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. N2006-1 to consider the Postal Service request referred to in the body of this order.

2. The Commission will act *en banc* in this proceeding.

3. Notices of interventions shall be filed no later than March 17, 2006.

4. Answers to the Postal Service's Motion for the Adoption of Proposed Procedural Schedule and Special Rules of Practice are due on March 17, 2006.

5. A prehearing conference is scheduled for March 24, 2006, at 9:30 a.m., in the Commission's hearing room.

6. Participants who wish to request a hearing on the Postal Service's request in this docket shall submit such a request, together with statements in conformance with 39 CFR 3001.20(b), on or before March 17, 2006.

7. The Secretary shall cause this notice and order to be published in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

<sup>4</sup>Id. at 2.

<sup>2</sup>Id. at 1. (Footnote omitted.)

<sup>3</sup>Motion of the United States Postal Service for the Adoption of Proposed Procedural Schedule and Special Rules of Practice, February 14, 2006.

<sup>1</sup>Request of the United States Postal Service for an Advisory Opinion on Changes in Postal Services, February 14, 2006.