

Conservation concurred with the draft EA.

The NRC staff has determined that consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required because the proposed action is administrative in nature and will not affect listed species or critical habitat.

The NRC staff has determined that the proposed action is not a type of activity that has potential to cause effect on historic properties because it is administrative in nature. Therefore, consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is not required.

References

Unless otherwise noted, a copy of this document and the references listed below will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

1. Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., Letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Request for Exemption from 10 CFR 70.25(f) Requirements for Portions of the BLEU Preparation Facility at Building 333," October 27, 2003, ADAMS No. ML033030311.

2. U.S. Department of Energy, Letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Assurance of Funding for Decommissioning the Equipment and Facilities Associated with the BLEU Project at Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. Erwin Site," October 20, 2003, ADAMS No. ML033010362.

3. Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., Letter to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "License Amendment Request for BLEU Preparation Facility," October 11, 2002, ADAMS No. ML023380210.

4. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Environmental Assessment for Renewal of Special Nuclear Material License No. SNM-124," January 1999, ADAMS No. ML031150418.

5. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Environmental Assessment for Proposed License Amendments to Special Nuclear Material License No. SNM-124 Regarding Downblending and Oxide Conversion of Surplus High-Enriched Uranium," June 2002, ADAMS No. ML021790068.

6. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the BLEU Preparation Facility," September 17, 2003, ADAMS No. ML032390428.

III. Finding of No Significant Impact

Pursuant to 10 CFR part 51, the NRC staff has considered the environmental consequences of amending NRC Materials License SNM-124 to exempt NFS from the financial assurance

requirements in 10 CFR 70.25(f) for the BPF. On the basis of this assessment, the Commission has concluded that environmental impacts associated with the proposed action would not be significant and the Commission is making a finding of no significant impact. Accordingly, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not warranted.

IV. Further Information

For further details, see the references listed above. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, Room O-1F21, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or (301) 415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, the 3rd day of November 2003.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Kevin M. Ramsey,

Project Manager, Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 03-28182 Filed 11-7-03; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 147th meeting on November 19-20, 2003, Dallas Ballroom D, Texas Station Hotel, 2101 Texas Star Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The schedule for this meeting is as follows:

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

10:30 a.m.-10:40 a.m.: Opening Statement (Open)—The Chairman will open the meeting with brief opening remarks, outline the topics to be discussed, and indicate items of interest.

10:40 a.m.-11:10 a.m.: DOE Opening Remarks (Open)—The Committee will be welcomed and receive introductory comments from John Arthur, Deputy Director, Office of Repository Development, Department of Energy.

11:10 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: Yucca Mountain Program Status (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of DOE regarding the status of the development of the License Application, the Licensing Support Network, and the resolution of Key Technical Issues (KTI) including the DOE "bundling" process. In addition there will be an update on several items discussed during the Committee's 2002 visit to Nevada.

1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.: Repository Design Status (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of DOE regarding the surface facility design, pre-closure safety assessment, and other Yucca Mountain Repository design issues.

4:45 p.m.-5:30 p.m.: DOE Approach to Drift Degradation Analyses (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of DOE on the Department's approach to evaluating drift degradation within the Yucca Mountain geologic environment.

5:30 p.m.-6 p.m.: Stakeholder Interactions (Open)—The Committee will reserve this time for interactions with stakeholders and meeting participants.

Thursday, November 20, 2003

8:30 a.m.-8:35 a.m.: Opening Statement (Open)—The Chairman will make opening remarks regarding the conduct of today's sessions.

8:35 a.m.-9:30 a.m.: Igneous Activity Status Report (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of DOE regarding the Igneous Activity Consequence Modeling Peer Review Recommendations and the DOE path forward.

9:30 a.m.-10 a.m.: Inyo County Carbonate Drilling Program Status (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of Inyo County (California) regarding its deep carbonate aquifer drilling program.

10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.: Nye County Early Warning Drilling Program Status (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of Nye County regarding the status of its early warning drilling program.

10:45 a.m.–11:30 a.m.: EPRI Workshop on Natural Analogues (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) regarding its recent workshop on natural analogues and their potential applicability to Yucca Mountain repository programs.

12:45 p.m.–2 p.m.: Presentation by Affected Units of Local Government (Open)—The Committee will hear presentations by and hold discussions with representatives of affected units of local government and Native American Organizations regarding their views on the proposed high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain.

2:15 p.m.–3 p.m.: Stakeholder Interactions (Open)—The Committee will reserve this time for interactions with stakeholders and meeting participants.

3 p.m.–5:45 p.m.: Preparation of ACNW Reports (Open)—The Committee will discuss possible reports on the Pre-Closure Safety Assessment Tool, Drift Degradation at Yucca Mountain, and Public Interactions.

5:45 p.m.–6 p.m.: Miscellaneous (Open)—The Committee will discuss 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 ACNW meetings were published in the **Federal Register** on October 16, 2003 (68 FR 59643). In accordance with these procedures, oral or written statements may be presented by members of the public. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify Mr. Howard J. Larson, Special Assistant (Telephone 301/415-6805), between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. ET, as far in advance as practicable so that appropriate arrangements can be made to schedule the necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during this meeting will be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the ACNW Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for taking pictures may be obtained by contacting the ACNW office prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACNW meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should notify Mr.

Howard J. Larson as to their particular needs.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, whether the meeting has been canceled or rescheduled, the Chairman's ruling on requests for the opportunity to present oral statements and the time allotted therefore can be obtained by contacting Mr. Howard J. Larson.

ACNW meeting agenda, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are available through the NRC Public Document Room at 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).

Videoteleconferencing service is available for observing open sessions of ACNW meetings. Those wishing to use this service for observing ACNW meetings should contact Mr. Theron Brown, ACNW Audiovisual 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 video teleconferencing link. The availability of video teleconferencing services is not guaranteed.

Dated: November 4, 2003.

Andrew L. Bates,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 03-28180 Filed 11-7-03; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Meeting on Planning and Procedures; Notice of Meeting

The ACNW will hold a Planning and Procedures meeting on November 19, 2003, Dallas Ballroom D, at the Texas Station Hotel, 2101 Texas Star Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance, with the exception of a portion that may be closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (2) and (6) to discuss organizational and personnel matters that relate solely to internal personnel rules and practices of ACNW, and information the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Wednesday, November 19, 2003—8:30 a.m.–10:15 a.m.

The Committee will discuss proposed ACNW activities and related matters. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Members of the public desiring to provide oral statements and/or written comments should notify the Designated Federal Official, Mr. Howard J. Larson (Telephone: 301/415-6805) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (ET) five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public.

Further information regarding this meeting can be obtained by contacting the Designated Federal Official between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (ET). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual at least two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes in the agenda.

Dated: November 4, 2003.

Sher Bahadur,

Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW.

[FR Doc. 03-28181 Filed 11-7-03; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards; Meeting of the ACRS Subcommittee on Regulatory Policies and Practices; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Regulatory Policies and Practices will hold a meeting on November 21, 2003, Room T-2B3, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance.

The agenda for the subject meeting shall be as follows:

Friday, November 21, 2003—8:30 a.m. until the conclusion of business.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the "LOCA failure analysis and frequency estimation" developed by the staff in response to the Commission's March 31, 2003, Staff Requirements Memorandum on recommendations for risk-informed changes to 10 CFR 50.46, "Acceptance Criteria for Emergency Core Cooling Systems for Light-Water Nuclear Power Reactors." The