



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC PRESENTING AT NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES MEETING MAY 23 IN ATLANTA REGARDING NRC-SPONSORED CANCER RISK STUDY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will present information during the National Academy of Sciences' (NAS) third committee meeting of the NRC-sponsored study, "Analysis of Cancer Risks in Populations Near Nuclear Facilities: Phase 1." The meeting's public session will occur on May 23 at the Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel, One Hartsfield Centre Parkway in Atlanta.

In the morning session, the NRC will explain the agency's oversight of the nuclear fuel cycle and civilian nuclear fuel facilities, and be available to answer committee member questions. Additional speakers in the morning, from other organizations, will discuss the examination of epidemiological data as well as Spanish studies of nuclear fuel facilities. In the afternoon session, the committee will hear presentations from speakers from other organizations on U.S. cancer registries and issues that could affect the designs and methods of the NRC-requested work. Members of the public are welcome to attend both sessions, which will also be webcast. The NAS asks members of the public to [register](#) for the meeting, and the NAS [website](#) has additional details, although they are subject to change. General questions on the study can be sent via e-mail to: crs@nas.edu.

The NAS project will update the 1990 U.S. National Institutes of Health – National Cancer Institute (NCI) [report](#), "Cancer in Populations Living Near Nuclear Facilities." The NRC uses the 1990 NCI report as a primary resource when communicating with the public about cancer mortality risk in counties that contain or are adjacent to nuclear power facilities. In the new study, the NRC is asking the NAS to evaluate cancer diagnosis rates, in addition to mortality risk, for populations living near decommissioned, operating and proposed NRC-licensed nuclear facilities. Phase 1 of the NAS study will determine whether a technically defensible approach to meet the goals of the study request is feasible—and if so, the approach will be developed using scientifically sound processes for evaluating cancer risk that could be associated with nuclear facilities.

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