October 23, 2002

ALL AGREEMENT STATES, MINNESOTA, PENNSYLVANIA, WISCONSIN

NRC SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH EPA ON CLEANUP OF RADIOACTIVELY CONTAMINATED SITES   (STP-02-072)

On October 9, 2002, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) signed an agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the radiological decommissioning and decontamination of NRC-licensed sites. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by NRC and EPA provides that EPA will defer exercise of authority for the majority of facilities decommissioned under NRC authority. The MOU includes provisions for NRC and EPA consultation for certain sites when, at the time of the license termination, (1) site groundwater contamination exceeds EPA-permitted levels; (2) NRC contemplates restricted release or alternate use criteria of the site; or (3) site soil concentrations exceed levels defined in the MOU.

NRC will host a public meeting in Rockville, Maryland, to discuss the MOU and the next steps in implementation. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 2002, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville, Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The MOU can be viewed on the Internet at the following web site: www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2002/02-120.html.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact the individual named below:

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