

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC DEPLOYS NEW WEBSITE THAT PROVIDES LIVE BROADCASTS OF COMMISSION MEETINGS OVER THE INTERNET

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has deployed a newly designed website that is intended to improve the public's access to information, make navigation of the site easier, and give greater visibility to frequently accessed information. One of its features will be to provide real-time broadcasts over the Internet of Commission meetings open to the public, beginning in mid-January, as a means of improving communications.

The NRC temporarily shut down its website soon after the events of September 11 to review posted material to make sure there was no sensitive information available to those who might seek to harm the United States. As reviews are completed, NRC is restoring information to the web incrementally in the new format, so as to enhance meaningful public participation in the regulatory process.

The new website includes, among other things, information on the NRC's mission; activities regarding reactors, nuclear materials and radioactive waste; public meeting schedules; news releases; NRC regulations and rulemakings; and how to report a safety concern. The What's New page will be updated as more information is added to the website.

In addition, the new website will allow Internet users worldwide to view public Commission meetings live, starting with a briefing on the status of nuclear materials safety on January 15 at 9:30 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time). All meetings can be viewed live or retrieved from the archives at www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/webcast-live.html.

To observe Commission meetings, users will need a computer equipped with a sound card and speakers, access to the Internet, and Real Networks Player software (a free version is available for download from NRC's webpage). Detailed instructions for accessing the meetings are provided at the website, where viewers are encouraged to provide comments on the broadcasts.