



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC ANNOUNCES OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING ON DECOMMISSIONING PLAN FOR SHIELDALLOY METALLURGICAL CORP.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is announcing the opportunity to request a hearing on a decommissioning plan submitted by Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corp. for its facility in Newfield, N.J.

The Newfield facility conducted smelting and alloy production from 1940 through 2001. The facility processed pyrochlore, which contains uranium and thorium and is subject to NRC licensing requirements. Shieldalloy has proposed decommissioning under restricted use, as provided for in NRC regulations (10 CFR 20.1403). The company's proposed approach is to use a possession-only license for long-term control, which would allow some radioactive material to remain on the site with restrictions imposed on the site's use and engineered barriers employed to meet NRC's requirements for protecting public health and safety and the environment.

The NRC staff has determined that the application contains sufficient information for the agency to begin its detailed technical review. Beginning this review does not preclude requesting additional information as the review proceeds; nor does it indicate whether the Commission will approve the application.

A notice of opportunity to request a hearing was published today in the *Federal Register*. The deadline for requesting a hearing is Jan. 16. Petitions may be filed by anyone whose interest may be affected by the decommissioning plan and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding.

NRC staff will conduct two public meetings, Dec. 5 and Dec. 12, in the vicinity of the Newfield site to discuss the decommissioning process and the scope of the agency's environmental review for the license amendment application. More information about those meetings is contained in the *Federal Register* notice, and an additional announcement will be made closer to the date.

A request for hearing and a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff. Requests may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 415-1101 or e-mail to HEARINGDOCKET@nrc.gov. A copy should also be submitted to the NRC Office of General Counsel, by facsimile to (301) 415-3725 or e-mail to OGCMailCenter@nrc.gov.

Shieldalloy's decommissioning plan is available on the NRC Web site through its ADAMS document system, at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html> , using docket number 04007102.

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