

improve its programs for nuclear fuel cycle facilities. This is described in SECY-99-188 titled, Evaluation and Proposed Revision of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facility Safety Inspection Program. SECY-99-188 is available in the Public Document Room and on the NRC Web Page at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/COMMISSION/SECYS/index.html>.

**PURPOSE:** To explain the planned revision of the fuel cycle safety inspection program and obtain stakeholder's views. The baseline safety inspection program applies to nuclear fuel cycle facilities regulated under 10 CFR parts 40, 70 and 76. The facilities currently include gaseous diffusion plants, highly enriched uranium fuel fabrication facilities, low-enriched uranium fuel fabrication facilities, and a uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) production facility. These facilities possess large quantities of materials that are potentially hazardous (i.e., radioactive, toxic, and/or flammable) to the workers, public, or environment. In revising the inspection program, the goals are to have an inspection program that: (1) Provides earlier and more objective indications of acceptable and changing safety performance, (2) increases stakeholder confidence in the NRC, and (3) increases regulatory effectiveness and efficiency. In this regard, the NRC desires the revised inspection program to be more risk-informed and performance-based and more focused on significant risks. Where practicable, the program will use more objective safety performance indicators (PIs) with accompanying performance thresholds.

**DATES:** This meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 1999, from 9 am to 4 pm and is open to the public.

**ADDRESSES:** NRC's Commissioner's Hearing Room, 1st Floor, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. Visitor parking around the NRC building is limited; however, the meeting site is located adjacent to the White Flint Station on the Metro Red Line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Walter Schwink, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, telephone (301) 415-7253, e-mail [wss@nrc.gov](mailto:wss@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 2nd day of September, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Philip Ting,**

Chief, Operations Branch, Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 99-24054 Filed 9-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards Subcommittee Meeting on Planning and Procedures; Notice of Meeting

The ACRS Subcommittee on Planning and Procedures will hold a meeting on September 29, 1999, Room T-2B1, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

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 ACRS, 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, September 29, 1999—1 p.m. until the conclusion of business

The Subcommittee will discuss proposed ACRS activities and related matters. It may also discuss the status of appointment of a new member to the ACRS. The purpose of this meeting is to gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and to formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Oral statements may be presented by members of the public with the concurrence of the Subcommittee Chairman; written statements will be accepted and made available to the Committee. Electronic recordings will be permitted only during those portions of the meeting that are open to the public, and questions may be asked only by members of the Subcommittee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the cognizant ACRS staff person named below five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, the scheduling of sessions open to the public, 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 therefor can be obtained by contacting the cognizant ACRS staff person, Dr. John T. Larkins (telephone: 301/415-7360) between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (EDT). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual one or two working days prior to the meeting to be advised

of any changes in schedule, etc., that may have occurred.

Dated: September 7, 1999.

**Richard P. Savio,**

Associate Director for Technical Support, ACRS/ACNW.

[FR Doc. 99-24053 Filed 9-14-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**DATES:** Weeks of September 13, 20, 27, October 4, and October 18, 1999.

**PLACE:** Commissioners' Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Public and Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

#### Week of September 13

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of September 13.

#### Week of September 20—Tentative

*Tuesday, September 21*

9:25 a.m.

Affirmation Session (Public Meeting) (if needed).

9:30 a.m.

Briefing by DOE on Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a Proposed HLW Geologic Repository (Public Meeting).

#### Wednesday, September 22

9:00 a.m.

Meeting on Center for Strategic and International Studies Report, "The Regulatory Process for Nuclear Power Reactors—a Review" (Public Meeting).

#### Week of September 27—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of September 27.

#### Week of October 4—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of October 4.

#### Week of October 18—Tentative

*Thursday, October 21*

9:30 a.m.

Briefing on Part 35—Rule on Medical Use of Byproduct Material (Contact: Cathy Haney, 301-415-6825) (SECY-99-201, *Draft Final Rule—10 CFR Part 35, Medical Use of Byproduct Material*, is available in the NRC Public Document Room or

on NRC web site at "www.nrc.gov/NRC/COMMISSION/SECYS/index.html". Download the *zipped version* to obtain all attachments.)

The schedule for commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (Recording)—(301) 415-1292.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Bill Hill (301) 415-1661.

The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/SECY/smj/schedule.htm>

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to it, please contact the Office of the Secretary, Attn: Operations Branch, Washington, D.C. 20555 (301-415-1661). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to [wmh@nrc.gov](mailto:wmh@nrc.gov) or [dkw@nrc.gov](mailto:dkw@nrc.gov).

Dated: September 10, 1999.

**William M. Hill, Jr.,**

*SECY Tracking Officer, Office of the Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-24169 Filed 9-13-99; 1:12 pm]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Memorandum of Understanding Between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the National Science Foundation

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Memorandum of Understanding Between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the National Science Foundation.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to ensure the protection of the public health and safety and the environment from the hazards of radioactive materials that may be used in Antarctica pursuant to the Antarctic Treaty, the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, and the Antarctic Conservation Act. The MOU is intended to clarify the responsibilities of the NSF and the NRC with respect to the safe use of radioactive materials in Antarctica to avoid any duplication of effort and ensure efficient management of those materials. The text of the MOU between

the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the National Science Foundation follows.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Trip Rothschild, Office of the General Counsel, telephone (301) 415-1611, e-mail [tbr@nrc.gov](mailto:tbr@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of September 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**David L. Meyer,**

*Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration.*

### Memorandum of Understanding Between the National Science Foundation and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Concerning the Management of Radioactive Material in Antarctica

#### I. Introduction

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) describes the responsibilities of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in ensuring the protection of the public health and safety and the environment from the hazards of radioactive materials that may be used in Antarctica pursuant to the Antarctic Treaty, the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, and the Antarctic Conservation Act.

#### II. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this MOU is to clarify the responsibilities of the NSF and the NRC with respect to the safe use of radioactive materials in Antarctica in order to avoid any duplication of effort and ensure efficient management of those materials. Radioactive materials within the scope of this MOU mean byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials as defined in Sections 11e., 11z., and 11aa. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 ("AEA"), as amended, and the NRC's regulations thereunder. Antarctica is defined as that area of the world south of 60° South latitude, as described in the International Antarctic Treaty (1959) and the Antarctic Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 2401 et seq.)

#### III. Authority and Regulatory Program

##### A. NSF

Presidential Memorandum #6646, dated February 2, 1982, designates NSF as the executive Federal manager for the United States Antarctic Program, assigning the entire management responsibility to the NSF. The Antarctic Conservation Act (ACA) of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2401 et seq.) implements the Antarctic Treaty and the

Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and recognizes NSF as the lead civilian agency with responsibility for overseeing United States scientific activities in Antarctica. These include activities involving the use of source, byproduct, and special nuclear material. Under the ACA, NSF is directed to issue regulations as are necessary and appropriate to implement the Treaty, the Protocol and the ACA, including its waste management and disposal requirements. NSF requires U.S. citizens to obtain an NSF permit for the use of certain materials in Antarctica, including radioactive materials, in accordance with NSF's implementing regulations at 45 CFR Part 671. Within its regulatory framework, the NSF has adopted as policy the radiation protection standards for byproduct, source, and special nuclear material set forth in the NRC regulations at 10 CFR Part 20 and the Department of Transportation regulations for packaging and transport of such radioactive materials; and it ensures that the disposal of radioactive waste generated in Antarctica (but returned to the U.S. for disposal) is consistent with NRC, EPA and Agreement State requirements. NSF's "authorized user" review/approval process includes protocol review, certification of training, utilization of appropriate standard operating procedures/facilities, waste management procedures, and periodic surveys and inventory control of radioactive material. The NSF will continue to ensure that any use of source, byproduct, and special nuclear materials within the NSF's jurisdiction in Antarctica requires the NSF's authorization through the issuance of permits or other approvals.

##### B. NRC

Under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (AEA) as amended, the NRC is responsible for regulating the use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear material within the United States and its territories, consistent with its mission to ensure adequate protection of the public health and safety, to promote the common defense and security, and to protect the environment. This MOU reflects the understanding of both parties that the NRC will not exercise any authority under the AEA to regulate the use of byproduct, source, or special nuclear material in Antarctica and recognizes the NSF's regulatory oversight, as described in 45 CFR Part 671 and Foundation policies. The NRC or its Agreement States, as appropriate, will resume regulatory authority over any byproduct, source, or special nuclear material that is regulated by the