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NRC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE TO MEET IN ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will meet on November 17-19 in Rockville, Maryland, to discuss the proposed Yucca Mountain high-level waste repository, among other topics.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held in conference room T-2B3 of the agency's Two White Flint North Building at 11545 Rockville Pike.

On Wednesday, November 17, the agenda will include opening remarks by the ACNW Chairman, the committee staff briefing the ACNW on issues to be considered at this and future meetings, and a review of generic codes used to predict radionuclide transport in the geosphere.

The following day's agenda will include NRC staff discussion of its review of the Department of Energy's Yucca Mountain Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and proposed rule 10 CFR Part 63, "Disposal of High-Level Radioactive Wastes in a Proposed Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada," including public comments. Other topics to be discussed are rubblization, which is the demolition and burying of building foundation parts of former nuclear facilities, the Yucca Mountain review plan, and the staff drafting of planned reports on a White Paper regarding the site's near-field chemistry. Finally, the day's agenda includes discussion of the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards' risk-informed, performance-based approach, the Yucca Mountain high-level waste regulation and the draft environmental impact statement by the Department of Energy.

On Friday, November 19, topics include a discussion with members of the NRC's Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards to coordinate program priorities and other items of interest, and the preparation of ACNW reports.

Although ACNW meetings are open, they are not part of the agency's normal hearing process. The ACNW is an advisory group established by the NRC in 1988 to provide the agency with independent technical review and advice on the disposal of nuclear waste.

While anyone may attend, the committee will consider only oral or written statements arranged in advance and limited to specific matters described in a Notice of Meeting published in an upcoming edition of the Federal Register. A detailed ACNW meeting agenda, transcripts and letter reports are available on the internet, at http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW

Those seeking additional information on opportunities to present oral statements or on final schedule changes, should contact Richard Major, at 301-415-7366.

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