United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Public Affairs Washington, DC 20555 Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234 Internet:opa@nrc.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Tuesday, June 29, 1999)

## NRC STAFF TO MEET WITH PUBLIC TO DISCUSS POLICIES RELATED TO THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with public interest groups, industry representatives and members of the general public July 9, to discuss concerns about NRC's method of releasing information, primarily documents, to the public.

Also to be discussed is the way the NRC interacts with the public when addressing issues of regulatory reform, policy or practice.

The meeting will be held from 10 a.m until noon in Room 10A1 of the NRC headquarters Two White Flint North building, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. The NRC's headquarters complex is near the White Flint Station on the Washington Metro Red Line at the intersection of Rockville Pike and Marinelli Road.

NRC is holding the meeting to develop a means of assuring that all interested stakeholders are simultaneously informed when documents are made publicly available. A recent review showed that, while the agency routinely sends documents to its Public Document Room at the same time that they are released to certain stakeholders, others would not necessarily know of their availability. The agency was recently criticized about this practice by a public interest group.

Following brief statements by the NRC staff, most of the meeting will be held in a roundtable format to facilitate discussions.

Members of the public who wish to speak at the meeting should contact Jesse Delgado at (301) 415-1168. Additional information is available from James Lyons of the NRC's Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation by calling (301) 415-2803.

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