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NRC SCHEDULES MEETINGS IN GEORGIA AND CALIFORNIA ON PACKAGING AND TRANSPORTATION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is planning public meetings in Atlanta, Georgia, on September 20 and in Oakland, California, on September 26, to obtain public comment on issues to be considered in revising its regulations on the packaging and transportation of radioactive material. A similar meeting was held last month at the agency's headquarters in Rockville, Maryland.

The NRC's current transportation regulations are based, in part, on those developed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), a worldwide standards-setting organization. The IAEA periodically revises its transportation standards to reflect scientific and technical advances. The NRC periodically updates its own regulations to be compatible with those of the IAEA.

Issues to be discussed include testing requirements for package integrity, package design requirements for aircraft transport, thresholds at which radioactive materials must be transported under hazardous material requirements, and double-containment requirements for plutonium shipments.

The Atlanta meeting will be held at the J.W. Marriott Hotel, 3300 Lenox Road Northeast, from 6:00 until 10:00 p.m. The Oakland meeting will be held at the Oakland Federal Building, Edward R. Roybal Auditorium and Conference Center, at 1301 Clay Street, from 6:00 until 10:00 p.m.

Background information on the issues to be discussed are located at http://ruleforum.llnl.gov/cgi-bin/rulemake?source=IAEA_RFC on the web. Comments may be electronically submitted at this web site, or submitted by mail to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC, 20555, Attention: Rulemaking and Adjudications Staff.