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NRC UNVEILS FIRST-EVER EXTERNAL BLOG TO ENHANCE DIALOGUE WITH THE PUBLIC

To enhance its ongoing communication with the public and support Open Government, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's first-ever external blog goes live today on the third-party site WordPress. The blog will feature posts from staff members throughout the agency writing about various topics of interest to the public, and moderated public comments as well.

"We are excited about using this new communications tool and hope it will increase our collaboration and interaction with the public," said Chairman Gregory Jaczko. "The blog is intended to build upon our extensive efforts to explain and clarify the actions, roles and responsibilities of the NRC, raise awareness about our agency and its mission, and – most importantly – give us an opportunity to hear from the public."

The blog can be reached directly at <u>http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov</u> or by clicking on the blog icon on the NRC website, <u>www.nrc.gov</u>. It can also be accessed on mobile devices such as smart phones by entering the website address in the mobile devices' Web browser.

The new blog does not replace formal communications, such as *Federal Register* notices or meeting notices, and will not accept allegations or comments on rulemakings. The complete comment guidelines are available on the blog.

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