

Dated: August 29, 1996.  
 M. Rebecca Winkler,  
*Committee Management Officer.*  
 [FR Doc. 96-22562 Filed 9-4-96; 8:45 am]  
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### Special Emphasis Panel in Networking and Communications Research and Infrastructure; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation announces the following meeting.

*Name:* Special Emphasis for NSFNET Connections Panel (#1207)  
*Date and Time:* September 25, 1996; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
*Place:* Room 1175  
*Type of Meeting:* Closed  
*Contact Person(s):* Mark Luker, Program Director, CISE/NCRI, Room 1175, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1950.  
*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.  
*Agenda:* To review and evaluate proposals submitted for the NSFNET Connections Program.

*Reason for Closing:* The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information; financial data, such as salaries, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the proposals. These matters are exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552b.(c) (4) and (6) of the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Dated: August 29, 1996.  
 M. Rebecca Winkler,  
*Committee Management Officer.*  
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### NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

#### Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste; Notice of Meeting

The Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) will hold its 86th meeting on September 26 and 27, 1996, at the Hotel San Remo, 115 East Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, in Chateau 1 and Chateau 2. The date of this meeting was previously published in the Federal Register on Wednesday, December 6, 1995 (60 FR 62485).

The entire meeting will be open to public attendance. The agenda for this meeting shall be as follows: *Thursday, September 26, 1996—8:30 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. Friday, September 27, 1996—8:30 A.M. until the conclusion of business*

During this meeting, the Committee plans to consider the following:

*A. Radionuclide Transport at Yucca Mountain*—The Committee will investigate the status and results of studies and modeling of radionuclide transport in the saturated and unsaturated zone at Yucca Mountain. This topic will constitute the entire meeting on Thursday. Specific focus will be on the transport of radionuclides in fracture systems at Yucca Mountain. This will include the ingress of water to the repository horizon and geochemical processes that affect transport of radionuclides out of the repository via fracture systems.

*B. Site Characterization*—The Committee will discuss site characterization integration through the use of performance assessment. A continuation of discussions with the Department of Energy on Total System Performance Assessment will be held with emphasis on the use of expert elicitation panels.

*C. Repository Design for Viability Assessment*—The Committee will discuss the advanced conceptual design for the proposed repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, with representatives of the Department of Energy and other interested parties.

*D. Public Comments*—The Committee will hear comments from members of the public on concerns related to nuclear waste disposal.

*E. Preparation of ACNW Reports*—The Committee will discuss proposed reports, including: radionuclide transport at Yucca Mountain, specifying a critical group and reference biosphere to be used in a performance assessment of a nuclear waste disposal facility, the consideration of coupled processes (thermal-mechanical-hydrological-chemical) in the design of a high-level waste repository, time of compliance in high- and low-level waste disposal, and the DOE program plan and waste isolation strategy.

*F. Committee Activities/Future Agenda*—The Committee will consider topics proposed for future consideration by the full Committee and Working Groups. The Committee will discuss ACNW-related activities of individual members.

*G. Miscellaneous*—The Committee will discuss miscellaneous matters related to the conduct of Committee activities and organizational activities and complete discussion of matters and specific issues that were not completed during previous meetings, as time and availability of information permit.

Procedures for the conduct of and participation in ACNW meetings were published in the Federal Register on

September 27, 1995 (60 FR 49924). In accordance with these procedures, oral or written statements may be presented by members of the public, 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 Committee, its consultants, and staff. Persons desiring to make oral statements should notify the Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch, Mr. Richard K. Major, as far in advance as practicable so that appropriate arrangements can be made to schedule the necessary time during the meeting for such statements. Use of still, motion picture, and television cameras during this meeting will be limited to selected portions of the meeting as determined by the ACNW Chairman. Information regarding the time to be set aside for this purpose may be obtained by contacting the Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch prior to the meeting. In view of the possibility that the schedule for ACNW meetings may be adjusted by the Chairman as necessary to facilitate the conduct of the meeting, persons planning to attend should notify Mr. Major as to their particular needs.

Further information regarding topics to be discussed, 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 therefore can be obtained by contacting Mr. Richard K. Major, Chief, Nuclear Waste Branch (telephone 301/415-7366), between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. EDT.

ACNW meeting notices, meeting transcripts, and letter reports are now available on FedWorld from the "NRC MAIN MENU." Direct Dial Access number to FedWorld is (800) 303-9672; the local direct dial number is 703-321-3339.

Dated: August 29, 1996  
 Andrew L. Bates,  
*Advisory Committee Management Office.*  
 [FR Doc. 96-22612 Filed 9-04-96; 8:45 am]  
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#### Issuance of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of a Memorandum of Understanding.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to advise the public of the issuance of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

between the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The MOU provides the basis for cooperation between the agencies to facilitate the safe and timely remediation and decommissioning of Site Decommissioning Management Plan Sites (SDMP) and other decommissioning sites in Pennsylvania at which both agencies exercise regulatory authority.

The broad MOU expresses the desire of PADEP and the NRC to cooperate in areas subject to the jurisdiction of both parties. Under the MOU, PADEP and NRC will designate site coordinators for each SDMP site in Pennsylvania. Each agency will provide the other with reasonable notice of inspections, and meetings with other agencies or the public which concern a particular SDMP site. The MOU also provides the basis for the dissemination of information between the agencies and the review and comment of draft documents.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This MOU was effective July 15, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Heather Astwood, Division of Waste Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop T-7-F27, Washington, D.C., 20555, telephone (301) 415-5819.

Dated at Rockville, MD this 28th day of August 1996.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Michael F. Weber,  
*Chief Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.*

Memorandum of Understanding Between the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

1. *Purpose.* This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is intended to provide a framework for voluntary cooperation between the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") to facilitate the safe and timely remediation and decommissioning of Site Decommissioning Management Plan ("SDMP") and other decommissioning sites in Pennsylvania at which both agencies exercise regulatory authority.

2. *Regulatory Authority.* The NRC regulates radioactive material and related activities at SDMP sites and licensed nuclear facilities under authority of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2011 *et seq.* The DEP administers and enforces Pennsylvania's environmental statutes, including the Solid Waste Management Act, 35 P.S. § 6018.101 *et seq.*; the Clean Streams Law, 35 P.S. § 691.1 *et seq.*; and the Radiation Protection Act, 35 P.S. § 7110.101 *et seq.*

3. *Designation of Site Coordinators.* Within ninety (90) days after execution of this MOU, each agency will designate a site coordinator for each SDMP site identified in Appendix A. Each agency shall notify the other, in writing, of the name, address, telephone and facsimile numbers of each site coordinator. Each agency may also designate coordinators for other decommissioning sites. Any changes in the designation of a coordinator will be communicated in writing to the other agency.

4. *Meetings and Conference Calls between the Agencies.* At the request of either agency, with reasonable notice, a meeting or conference call will be scheduled between the site coordinators and other agency representatives to discuss coordination of remediation and decommissioning activities.

5. *Technical and Regulatory Consultation.* At the request of either agency, with reasonable notice, representatives of each will be made available to discuss technical or regulatory matters pertaining to the SDMP site or other decommissioning sites.

6. *Meetings with the Public.* Except in response to site emergencies, each agency will notify the other, at least two weeks in advance, of any public meeting related to remediation or decommissioning activities at an SDMP or other decommissioning site.

7. *Meetings with Other Regulatory Entities.* At its discretion, an agency may invite representatives of the other agency to attend meetings with other regulatory entities who share some responsibility for the SDMP or other decommissioning site. At a minimum, an agency will keep the other agency informed of such meetings and the results of those meetings. It should be noted that the NRC has an Open Meeting Policy which would require these meetings to be open to the public because they would almost always involve discussions concerning a specific licensee (Open Meeting Statement of NRC Staff Policy, 59 Federal Register 48340, 9/20/94).

8. *Notice of Site Inspections.* Each agency will make a good faith effort to

coordinate routine site inspections of SDMP sites and other decommissioning sites by providing advance notice to the other agency.

9. *Dissemination of Information to Other Agencies.* As necessary to effectively implement remediation and decommissioning of SDMP and other decommissioning sites, the agencies will coordinate pertinent and appropriate dissemination of information to other Federal, State and local Government agencies.

10. *Exchange of Information Between Agencies.*

A. The agencies will exchange information concerning the remediation and decommissioning of SDMP or other decommissioning sites as follows:

i. Within two weeks of receipt, the following information will be forwarded from one agency to the other: plans and reports relating to site assessment/characterization; remediation or decommissioning; and all available related analytic data generated through site remediation or decommissioning.

ii. Upon request, NRC will make available to DEP for review and copying any documents disclosable to the public under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, NRC regulations in 10 CFR Part 9, Public Records, and in 10 CFR Part 2.790, public inspections, exemptions, requests for withholding, and any other applicable Federal statute, regulation, or policy.

iii. Upon request, DEP will make available to the NRC for review and copying any documents disclosable to the public under the Public Right to Know Act, 65 P.S. § 66.1 *et seq.*, DEP's public information policy, and any other applicable Pennsylvania statute, regulation, or policy.

B. All documents exchanged by the agencies will be addressed to the designated coordinator for the SDMP site.

C. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as compelling either agency to produce information or documents which the agency deems confidential or privileged. If such documents are exchanged, each agency will respect the confidentiality of the information and will make every attempt to avoid disclosure in accordance with administrative procedures.

11. *Disclosure of Information to the Public.* The right of access by the public to information under Federal and State law, regulation, or policy is not affected by this MOU.

12. *Review and Comment on Documents.*

A. Each agency should expeditiously forward drafts of documents it has prepared, or copies of documents

received from third persons which potentially impact remediation of hazards under the other agency's jurisdiction, to solicit the other agency's review and comments.

B. The agency requesting comments will specify the date by which a response is needed. The review and comments should be completed in a reasonable time (or approximately 30 days).

C. Comments will be returned within the specified response period. In cases where there are no comments, that information will be provided within the response period.

D. Requests for comments or responses will be addressed to the agency's site coordinator.

E. Final agency decisions and documents potentially impacting remediation of hazards under the other agency's jurisdiction will be transmitted by facsimile the same day these documents are sent to the facility management or released to the public.

13. *Modifications.* Any modifications or changes to this MOU shall only be effective if agreed to by the parties and set forth in writing as an amendment of this MOU.

14. *Reservation of Rights.* Nothing in this MOU shall affect the rights, duties and authority of either agency under the law. The agencies reserve their respective authority and rights to take any enforcement action which they deem necessary to fulfill their duties and responsibilities under the law.

15. *Non-binding Memorandum.* This memorandum is not intended to and does not create any contractual rights or obligations with respect to the NRC, DEP, or any other parties.

Dated: April 11, 1996.

Carl J. Paperiello,

*Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.*

Dated: July 15, 1996

James W. Rue,

*Deputy Secretary, Air, Recycling and Radiation Protection, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection.*

Appendix A—Site Decommissioning Management Plan Sites in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Babcock & Wilcox; Apollo, PA  
Babcock & Wilcox; Parks Township, PA  
Cabot Corporation; Boyertown, PA  
Cabot Corporation; Reading, PA  
Cabot Corporation; Revere, PA  
Molycorp, Inc.; Washington, PA  
Molycorp, Inc.; York, PA  
Permagrain Products; Media, PA  
Pesses Company, METCOA Site; Pulaski, PA  
Safety Light Corporation; Bloomsburg, PA  
Schott Glass Technologies; Duryea, PA

Westinghouse Electric Corporation; Waltz Mill, PA

Whittaker Corporation; Greenville, PA

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### **Draft Regulatory Guides; Issuance, Availability**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued for public comment drafts of six guides planned for its Regulatory Guide Series. This series has been developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the NRC's regulations, techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data needed by the staff in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

These draft guides, presently identified by their task numbers, endorse industry consensus standards of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The guides and the standards they endorse are DG-1054, "Verification, Validation, Reviews, and Audits for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," which endorses IEEE Std 1012-1986, "IEEE Standard for Software Verification and Validation Plans," and IEEE Std 1028-1988, "IEEE Standard for Software Reviews and Audits"; DG-1055, "Configuration Management Plans for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," which endorses IEEE Std 828-1990, "IEEE Standard for Software Configuration Management Plans," and ANSI/IEEE Std 1042-1987, "IEEE Guide to Software Configuration Management"; DG-1056, "Software Test Documentation for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," which endorses ANSI/IEEE Std 829-1983, "IEEE Standard for Software Test Documentation"; DG-1057, "Software Unit Testing for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," which endorses ANSI/IEEE Std 1008-1987, "IEEE Standard for Software Unit Testing"; DG-1058, "Software Requirements Specifications for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," which endorses IEEE Std 830-1993, "IEEE Recommended Practice for Software Requirements Specifications"; and DG-1059, "Developing Software Life Cycle Processes for Digital Computer Software Used in Safety Systems of Nuclear Power Plants," which endorses IEEE Std

1074-1995, "IEEE Standard for Developing Software Life Cycle Processes." These guides will be in Division 1, "Power Reactors." These draft guides are being developed to provide current guidance on methods acceptable to the NRC staff for complying with the NRC's regulations for promoting high functional reliability and design quality in software used in safety systems of nuclear power plants.

The draft guides have not received complete staff review and do not represent official NRC staff positions. No backfitting is intended or approved in connection with the issuance of these proposed guides. Any backfitting that may result from application of this new guidance to operating plants will be justified in accordance with established NRC backfitting guidance and procedures. These draft guides have been released to encourage public participation in their development. Except in those cases in which an applicant proposes an acceptable alternative method for complying with specified portions of the NRC's regulations, the methods to be described in the active guide reflecting public comments will be used in the evaluation of submittals in connection with applications for construction permits, standard design certifications and design approvals, and combined operating licenses. The active guides will also be used to evaluate submittals from operating reactor licensees who propose modifications that go beyond the current licensing basis, if those modifications are voluntarily initiated by the licensee and there is a clear connection between the proposed modifications and this guidance. The final guides will be used in conjunction with, and will eventually be reflected in, the Standard Review Plan, which is currently under revision.

Public comments are being solicited on the guide. Comments should be accompanied by supporting data. Written comments may be submitted to the Rules Review and Directives Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Copies of comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC. Comments will be most helpful if received by October 31, 1996.

Although a time limit is given for comments on this draft guide, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.