

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

No. 99-45

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 1999

NRC TO HOLD TWO PUBLIC MEETINGS IN NEVADA
ON PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR YUCCA MOUNTAIN

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold two public meetings this month in Nevada to discuss the agency's proposed new regulations for the licensing of a possible future high-level radioactive waste repository at Yucca Mountain.

The first meeting will be Tuesday, March 23 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Richard Tam Alumni Center, University of Nevada Las Vegas. The second will be Thursday, March 25 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Beatty Community Center in Beatty.

The meetings will open with an NRC presentation on the proposed rule, which would establish criteria and standards against which NRC would evaluate a possible future DOE license application for a repository at Yucca Mountain.

The NRC's presentation will be followed by an opportunity for comments from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency.

The public discussion will begin with a panel of representatives of the major interests affected by the proposed regulations, including local and county governments, the State of Nevada, Native American organizations, the Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force and the Nuclear Waste Study Committee. The floor will then be open for questions or comments from the general public.

Francis X. Cameron, NRC Counsel for Public Liaison, will facilitate the meetings.

The NRC will consider comments received at the meeting in developing the final version of the proposed rule. Written comments are also invited and should be submitted, by May 10, to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff. In addition, comments may be submitted electronically via the NRC's interactive rulemaking web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/rule.html>.

The proposed regulations were published in the Federal Register on February 22. Copies will also be available at the public meetings, via the same NRC Internet web site, or from Judy Goodwin, Division of Waste Management, Mail Stop T-7F3, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20005, telephone: 301/415-5870.

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