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CONTACT: Roger Hannah 404-997-4417
Joey Ledford 404-997-4416

NRC Schedules Nov. 4 Meeting in Charlotte to Take Comments on Proposed Spent Nuclear Fuel Rule and Environmental Study

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting in Charlotte to receive public comment on a proposed rule and supporting environmental study on the effects of extended storage of spent nuclear fuel at commercial reactors after the plant is shut down.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the University Ballroom at the Hilton Charlotte University Place, 8629 J. M. Keynes Dr. NRC staff will be available one hour before the formal meeting to talk to people and answer questions during an informal open house session.

The proposed “waste confidence” rule was published in the *Federal Register* in September. It would replace a similar provision in NRC’s environmental regulations that was vacated last year by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The rule does not authorize extended storage of spent fuel at reactor sites – a separate license is required for that. Rather, waste confidence is a generic finding of the environmental impacts of storing spent fuel for extended periods beyond the licensed operating life of reactors. The draft Waste Confidence Generic Environmental Impact Statement forms the regulatory basis for the proposed rule. The EIS and proposed rule are available on the NRC’s [waste confidence webpage](#).

In addition to the Charlotte meeting, comments may also be provided orally or in writing at one of the other public meetings the NRC staff will hold around the country as part of the agency’s extensive public outreach effort on the waste confidence project. Details of all the meetings are available on the NRC’s [webpage](#).

Public comments may also be submitted online through the federal government’s rulemaking website, www.regulations.gov using Docket ID NRC-2012-0246; by e-mail to Rulemaking.Comments@nrc.gov; by fax to 301-415-1101; by mail to Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC 20555-0001, ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff; or by hand delivery to 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md., between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on federal workdays. All comments will be considered no matter how they are submitted.