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### NRC SETS PUBLIC MEETING ON AGENCY'S STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold the second of three public meetings October 31 to November 1 in Colorado Springs, Colorado to obtain public comments on issue papers that address the agency's future direction.

NRC Chairman Shirley Ann Jackson initiated a strategic assessment in September of last year to provide a comprehensive, critical evaluation of the agency's direction and decision-making for the rest of this decade and into the next. At the meeting, the public is invited to comment on a number of issues identified in "direction-setting issue papers," which are the result of the strategic assessment.

The two-day meeting will be held in the Sheraton Hotel in Colorado Springs, at 2886 South Circle Drive. The first day will include discussion of issues in the arena of public trust and confidence from 9:15 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. In the afternoon, discussions will cover research, international assistance, and use of radioactive materials from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The following day will focus on nuclear reactor operations and decommissioning from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and in the afternoon will cover nuclear waste and agency finances from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The meetings will be open to the public, but advance registration is suggested.

Copies of the detailed agenda, direction-setting issue papers, a registration form, and other background information are available electronically on the NRC's home page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nrc.gov> and FedWorld at 1-800-303-9672. Paper copies are available by calling NRC's Public Document Room at 1-800-952-9674. Individuals desiring additional information about the meetings should contact Anna May Haycraft, 301-415-3075, or internet: amh@nrc.gov.