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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Friday, May 31, 1996)

## NRC'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE TO MEET JUNE 25-27

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) has scheduled a technical meeting June 25-27 in Rockville, Maryland.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 8:30 a.m. each day in Room 2B3 of the NRC Two White Flint North Building at 11545 Rockville Pike.

As part of the meeting, the committee will meet with the NRC Commissioners from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on June 26 in the NRC's One White Flint Building, 11555 Rockville Pike, to discuss items of mutual interest. The items include the National Research Council report, "Technical Bases for Yucca Mountains Standards"; high-level waste prelicensing program strategy and key technical issues; health effects of low-levels of ionizing radiation; the timespan for compliance of the proposed high-level waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada; and the use of expert judgment in nuclear waste licensing.

Although meetings of the ACNW are open, they are not part of the NRC's public hearing process. The ACNW was established in March 1988 to advise the Commission on all aspects of nuclear waste management. While anyone may attend the meeting, the committee will consider only oral or written statements arranged in advance and limited to specific matters set forth in a Notice of Meeting published in the Federal Register on May 30.

Discussions scheduled at the meeting include:

--NRC comments on the Department of Energy's total system performance assessment 1995.

--Progress at the Yucca Mountain site, the status of the Environmental Protection Agency's Yucca Mountain standards and NRC's high-level waste regulations. --Options for setting a regulatory time of compliance for a low-level waste disposal facility.

--A rule that would allow an operator of a facility that is releasing contaminants into the environment the option of reducing its own discharges.

--Preparation of ACNW reports.

--Future ACNW activities.

Persons wishing to submit a statement regarding an agenda subject may do so by providing a readily reproducible copy to the committee at the beginning of the meeting or by mailing it in advance to the Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555.

(ACNW schedules are subject to change. Anyone planning to attend should confirm the schedule the day before the meeting by calling 301/415-5024.)

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(NOTE TO EDITORS: The use of self-contained tape recorders in the meeting room is permitted during open portions of the meeting when a transcript is being kept. The use of still, motion picture and television cameras--the physical installation and presence of which will not interfere with the course of the meeting--will be permitted both before and after the meeting, during any recess, and, at the discretion of the committee chairman, while the meeting is in session.)