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. 99-83

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Wednesday, April 21, 1999)

NRC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE TO MEET IN ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW) has scheduled a technical meeting May 11-13 in Rockville, Maryland.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held in conference room T-2B3 of the NRC's Two White Flint North building at 11545 Rockville Pike.

The Committee, along with invited professional risk communication experts and representatives from government agencies, private industry, and the National Academy of Sciences, will utilize this time to prepare for an October meeting on risk communications.

The Committee will also discuss a planned report on the biological effects of low-level ionizing radiation and a "white paper" on design issues at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, proposed site for a high-level radioactive waste repository.

In addition, the NRC staff will discuss with the Committee the strategy for developing a plan for reviewing a possible license application for a Yucca Mountain repository.

The first meeting on May 11 will begin at 1:00 p.m. and last until 6 p.m. The next two meetings will begin at 8:30 a.m., and last until 6:00 p.m. on May 12, and until 4:00 p.m. on May 13.

Those wishing to make oral statements should notify Dr. Richard P. Savio, 301-415-7363 in advance. Other aspects of the meeting, including opportunities for public comment, will be described in a forthcoming edition of the Federal Register. ACNW meeting notices, transcripts and letter reports are available on the internet, at http://www.nrc.gov/ACRSACNW.

###