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NRC STAFF TO HOLD WORKSHOP ON STATUS OF EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE REGULATORY PROCESS

The staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a workshop on July 22 in Bethesda, Maryland, to discuss the status of efforts to improve the safety oversight of commercial nuclear power plants.

The conference will focus on ways the NRC considers risk in a more comprehensive manner to focus regulatory attention on those areas of nuclear operations most important to protecting public health and safety. With a "risk-informed" approach, risk information is considered along with other factors, such as the need for redundant safety systems and good engineering practices, rather than becoming the sole basis for a regulatory decision.

The conference, which is open to the public, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pookshill Road, Bethesda. It will follow a joint NRC-industry licensing workshop being held July 20-21 at the same hotel.

A summary of the questions and comments discussed at the workshop on risk-informed regulation and a list of NRC follow-up actions will be distributed to conference participants.

For information on registration for the conference, interested persons should contact Glenn Kelly of the NRC at (301) 415-1075.