



## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 15, 2003

COMSECY-03-0051

MEMORANDUM TO:

Chairman Diaz

Commissioner McGaffigan

Commissioner Merrifield.

FROM:

John T. Larkins Executive Director

ACRS/ACNW

SUBJECT:

DRAFT PRESS RELEASE AND FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE

TO SOLICIT QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE

Attached is a copy of the draft Federal Register notice and draft press release information that we propose to use to solicit qualified candidates for possible appointment to the Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW). This solicitation is to replace Mr. Milton Levenson who recently resigned from the ACNW. This material denotes that the Commission is seeking an individual with expertise in materials degradation and corrosion issues as well as in engineering design and risk assessment associated with underground structures, tunnels, and mining complexes, with emphasis in the area of radioactive waste storage and disposal.

We request Commission approval by November 3, 2003. We will submit the *Federal Register* notice to the Office of the Secretary for publication and the press release information to the Office of Public Affairs. We also plan to place paid advertisements in several publications.

For additional information, please call me at 415-7360.

## Attachments:

- 1. Draft Federal Register Notice
- 2. Draft Press Release Information

cc: SECY



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FROM: John T. Larkins Level 1

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#### DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

# NRC INVITES PUBLIC TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NUCLEAR WASTE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking qualified candidates for an appointment to its Advisory Committee on Nuclear Waste (ACNW). Currently there are five members and the Commission is seeking to replace one of the positions on the Committee.

The ACNW is a part-time advisory group established by the NRC in 1988 to provide independent technical review of and advice on the disposal of nuclear waste, including all aspects of nuclear waste disposal facilities, as directed by the NRC. The ACNW undertakes independent studies and reviews related to disposal, storage, and transportation of both high- and low-level radioactive waste including interim storage of spent nuclear fuel; materials safety; and facilities decommissioning. This encompasses activities related to rulemakings, associated regulatory guides, and technical positions developed to support and clarify NRC's nuclear materials and radioactive waste regulations. Currently, the Commission is seeking an individual with technical expertise in radioactive waste disposal, site remediation and closure activities, nuclear fuel reprocessing, chemistry, chemical exchange processes, and nuclear fuel cycle.

The ACNW membership includes individuals who possess specific technical expertise along with a broad perspective in addressing safety concerns. Committee

(From paga T mate

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Approve as edited.

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members are selected from a variety of engineering and scientific disciplines, such as risk assessment, chemistry, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, materials sciences, and earth sciences. At this time, candidates are being sought who have 15-20 years of experience, including graduate level education, in the management and disposal of radioactive waste. Committee members serve a 4-year term with the possibility of reappointment for a total service of 8 years.

Criteria used to evaluate candidates includes education and experience, demonstrated skills in nuclear waste management matters, and the ability to solve complex technical problems. The Commission, in selecting its Committee members, considers the need for a specific expertise to accomplish the work expected to be before the ACNW. For this position, the expertise must be directly related to the areas of radioactive waste disposal, site remediation and closure activities, materials degradation, corrosion of metals and alloys, and nuclear fuel cycle. Demonstrated experience would be particularly desirable in engineering design and risk assessment associated with underground structures, tunnels, and mining complexes, with emphasis in the area of radioactive waste storage and disposal. Consistent with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Commission seeks candidates with diverse backgrounds so that the membership on the Committee will be fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and functions to be performed by the Committee.